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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least and 5 the most, how would you rate the trustworthiness of the CNMI's election process?

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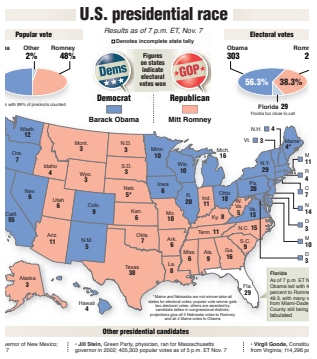
INSIDE

NATION



President Obama pledges to seek a compromise to avert spending cuts and tax hikes. ➤ PAGE 18

WORLD

A 7.4-magnitude earthquake rocks Guatemala. ➤ PAGE 20

LIFE & STYLE

With 'Skyfall,' Daniel Craig puts his stamp on James Bond. ➤ PAGE 23

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CNMI is not recalling Korean noodles; WHO finds low risk. PAGE 6

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) gestures as he talks to reporters in his office in Susupe yesterday afternoon, two days after a landslide victory in his re-election bid. Sablan said education and healthcare, along with immigration and accountability in government, will continue to be among his priorities in his third two-year term as the CNMI's first and so far only non-voting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Immigration on Kilili's agenda

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Re-elected President Barack Obama's focus on immigration reform is resonating well with re-elected Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) who said yesterday that the immigration status of long-term foreign workers in the CNMI will continue to be on his agenda in the 113th Congress, including the reintroduction of a "more fair" or a "broader" version of his H.R. 1466.

HR 1466 seeks a grant of CNMI-only resident status to four groups of non-U.S. citizens on the islands, including foreign parents of minor U.S. citizen children.

Sablan said Obama cited three top policy issues, including comprehensive immigration reform.

"A legislation that's been developed over time has in there a 'place holder' that's specific to the Northern Marianas," Sablan said in a news briefing in his office in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

Sablan did not give specific details as to the content of that immigration proposal for the CNMI.

"We'll see. I'm hoping it would be something that's more fair," he said, adding that he would again communicate with the stakeholders including the business community as well as get a feel of the Obama administration's plan.

Sablan is an independent caucusing with Democrats in Congress.

Bonifacio Sagana, president of Dekada Movement, separately said yesterday that his group would like to request Sablan to

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Wage hike blocks childcare applicants

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Many renewal applications for the federally funded childcare program are being rejected due to the recent increase in the CNMI's minimum wage, which bumped up the income bracket of previous beneficiaries outside the eligibility requirements.

» Families hope DCCA will adjust income eligibility requirement'

A 33-year-old mother from Dandan described yesterday as "useless" the slight salary increase she got after this caused the termination of her child's admittance in the childcare program, which is under by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

This single mother has a 2-year-old enrolled in the program for less than a year. Her renewal application was terminated by DCCA last month, citing the "increase" in her income.

The mother was recently promoted by her company and given a $1-increase in her hourly wage. However, starting this month, she will now have

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'Feds looking into white collar crime in NMI'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Re-elected Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday that the U.S. Department of Justice is investigating white collar crime in the CNMI, although there's no telling whether this includes probes on Gov. Benigno R. Fitial but Sablan echoed calls for the governor to step down now or be impeached by a new House of Representatives in January 2013.

» Kilili urges lawmakers to 'finish what you started'

He reiterated his call for local lawmakers to "finish what you started," alluding to a defeated resolution impeaching the governor for 16 allegations of corruption, neglect of duty, and felony.

"I have said it [before] and I say it again. I encourage the Legislature to please finish what they started. And to make it easy, we should save ourselves [the trouble] if the governor respectfully resigns. The people have spoken and unless he is oblivious to what people say, he should resign, and save himself and save everyone else the trouble," Sablan said in a news briefing in his office in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

While the impeachment resolution was shot down by a Fitial-aligned House leadership in October, pro-impeachment lawmakers and their allies will become

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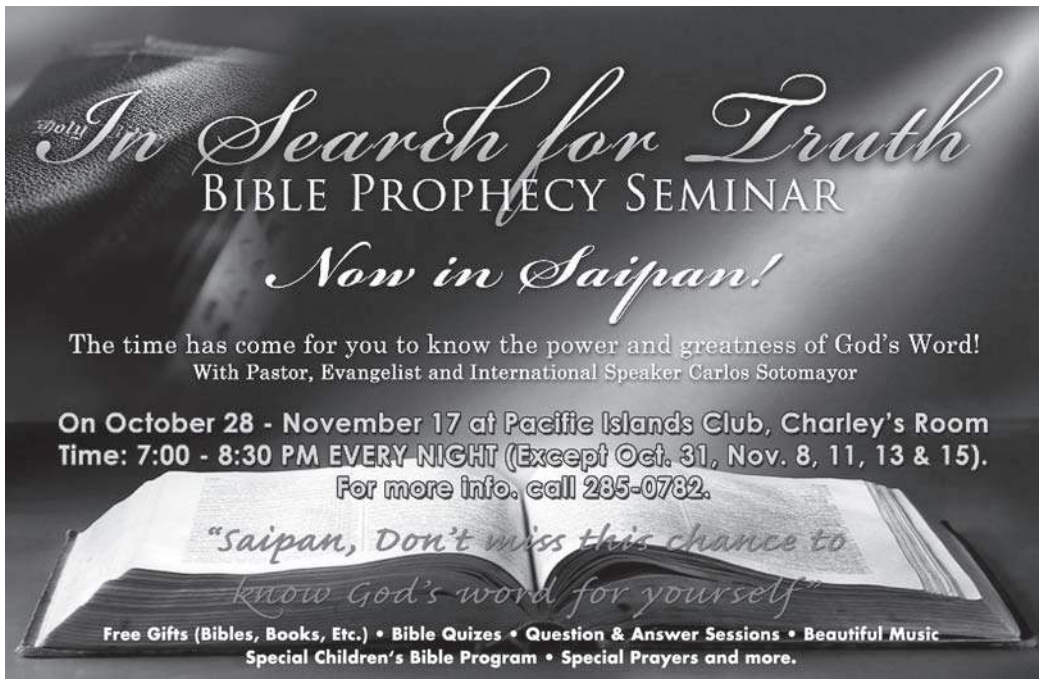
Local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Obama's health care overhaul turns into a sprint

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Its place assured alongside Medicare and Medicaid, President Barack Obama's health care law is now in a sprint to the finish line, with just 11 months to go before millions of uninsured people can start signing up for coverage.

But there are hurdles in the way.

Republican governors, opposed to what they deride as "Obamacare," will have to decide whether they somehow can join the team. And the administration could stumble under the sheer strain of carrying out the complex legislation, or get tripped up in budget talks with Congress.

"The clarity brought about by the election is critical," said Andrew Hyman of the nonpartisan Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. "We are still going to be struggling through the politics, and there are important policy hurdles and logistical challenges. But we are on a very positive trajectory." Hyman oversees efforts to help states carry out the law.

In the two years since passage of the Affordable Care Act, the Obama administration has been consumed with planning and playing political defense. Now it has to quickly turn to execution.

States must notify Washington a week from Friday whether they will be setting up new health insurance markets, called exchanges, in which millions of households as well as small businesses will shop for private coverage. The Health and Human Services Department will run the exchanges in states that aren't ready or willing.

Open enrollment for exchange plans is scheduled to start Oct. 1, 2013, and coverage will be effective Jan. 1, 2014.

In all, more than 30 million uninsured people are expected to gain coverage under the law. About half will get private insurance through the exchanges, with most receiving government help to pay premiums.

The rest, mainly low-income adults without children at home, will be covered through an expansion of Medicaid. While the federal government will pay virtually all the additional Medicaid costs, the Supreme Court gave states the leeway to opt out of the expansion. That gives states more leverage but also adds to the uncertainty over how the law will be carried out.

A steadying force within the administration is likely to be HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. The former Kansas governor has said she wants to stay in her job until the law is fully enacted. "I can't imagine walking out the door in the middle of that," she told The Kansas City Star during the Democratic convention. Her office declined to comment Wednesday.

Republicans will be leading more than half the states, so governors are going to be her main counterparts.

Some, like Rick Perry of Texas and Rick Scott of Florida, have drawn a line against helping carry out Obama's law. In other states, voters have endorsed a hard stance. Missouri voters passed a ballot measure Tuesday that would prohibit establishment of a health insurance exchange unless the Legislature approves. State-level challenges to the federal law will continue to be filed in court.

But other GOP governors have been on the fence, awaiting the outcome of the election. All eyes will be on pragmatists like Chris Christie of New Jersey and Bob McDonnell of Virginia, whose states have done considerable planning of their own to set up exchanges.

"Republican governors are at the center of the health care universe right now," said Michael Ramlet, health policy director at the American Action Forum, a center-right think tank. "They do not have a uniform position across the board."

GOP governors are pressing Sebelius on whether the administration will approve partial, less costly Medicaid expansions. There has been no ruling yet.

On health insurance exchanges, some governors whose states aren't likely to be completely ready are considering the administration's offer of running the new markets through a partnership.

"The real question for Republican governors is, `Are you going to let the feds come into your state?'" Ramlet said. "The question for the Obama administration is whether they are going to have more flexibility."

Major regulations due shortly and covering issues including exchange operations, benefits and protections for people with pre-existing health problems could signal the administration's willingness to compromise.

A recent check by The Associated Press found 16 states and the District of Columbia on track to setting up their own exchanges, while nine have decided they will not do so. The federal government could end up running the new markets in half or more of the states.

As far as Medicaid, 11 states and the District of Columbia have indicated they will expand their programs, while six have said they will not. That leaves more than 30 states undecided.

On Capitol Hill, Republicans say if a budget deal is going to include tax increases, it must also come with cuts to the health care law, or money-saving delays in its implementation.

While major changes can't be ruled out, they don't seem very likely to former Senate Majority

Continued on Next Page

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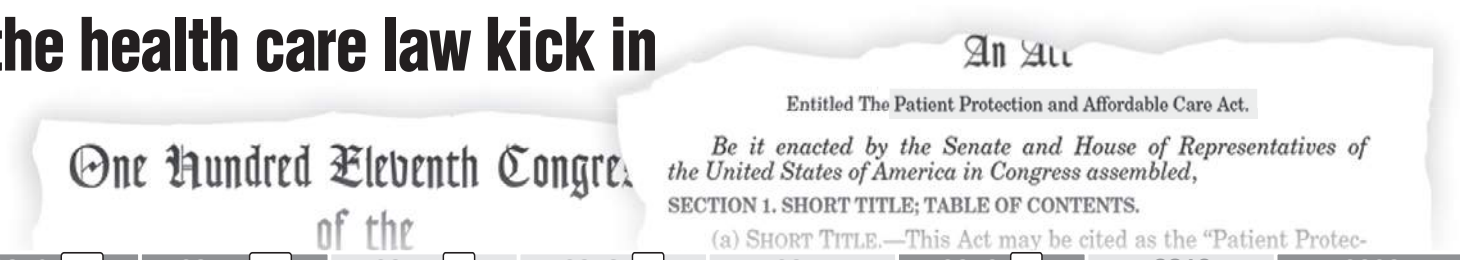
When key provisions of the health care law kick in

The 2010 health care reform law phases in its provisions; some are already in effect while others are slated to start in coming years. A look at the timetable:

Total number of provisions phased in each year 00


One Hundred Eleventh Congres
of the
An Act
Entitled The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Patient Protec-

2010 26

- Sets up high-risk health insurance pool to provide affordable coverage for uninsured people with medical problems
- Bars lifetime dollar limits on insurance coverage
- Provides tax credits to help small businesses (up to 25 employees) provide workers with insurance
- AGE 26 — Requires health insurance plans to maintain dependent coverage for children until they turn 26; prohibits insurers from denying coverage to children because of pre-existing health problems

2011 20

- Provides Medicare recipients in the prescription drug coverage gap with discounts; by 2020 seniors pay just 25 percent of the cost of brand-name and generic drugs

2012 11

2013 13

- $2,500 FLEX — Limits medical expense contributions to tax-sheltered flexible spending accounts to $2,500 a year, with annual increases based on cost-of-living adjustments
- Increases Medicare payroll tax on couples making more than $250,000 and individuals making more than $200,000; adds a new tax of 3.8 percent on income from investments
- CO-OP — Sets up program to create nonprofit insurance co-ops

2014 19

- States create health insurance exchanges — supermarkets for individuals and small businesses to buy coverage
- Prohibits insurers from denying or limiting coverage based on pre-existing conditions
- Provides income-based tax credits for most consumers in exchanges
- Expands Medicaid to cover low-income people up to 133 percent of the poverty line
- Requires citizens and legal residents to have health insurance, with exceptions, or pay a fine
- Penalizes employers with more than 50 workers if insurance is not offered, or if their workers get coverage through the exchange and receive a tax credit

2015 1

2016 1

2017

2018 1

- TAX — Imposes a tax on so-called Cadillac health plans, employer-sponsored health insurance worth more than $10,200 for individual coverage, $27,500 for a family plan

2019

2020

- Doughnut hole coverage gap in Medicare prescription benefit is phased out

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, House Energy and Commerce Committee, AP, Tribune Newspapers reporting Graphic: Chicago Tribune, MCT © 2012 MCT

From Page 2

Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., who is close to the administration.

"I think Democrats are increasingly emboldened about the health care act," Daschle said. "The president won reelection partly by defending it. There is a new dynamic around the health care effort."

Republican attempts to amend the law will continue, he added, but outright repeal is no longer a possibility. "Budgetary issues will continue to be a big question mark," said Daschle.

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WAGE

From Page 1

to shoulder the full payment of $300 monthly for childcare service.

DCCA uses the parents' income bracket to determine eligibility for the childcare program, which receives funding from the federal government.

For this mother, she used to pay only 10 percent of the full cost of childcare services, or only $30 a month, while the program pays for the rest, amounting to $270 each month.

"It seems useless now because in exchange for the slight increase in my salary, I have to pay the full childcare service for my child. I am grateful that I was given the merit [increase], but at same time…it's sad that my child was terminated from the program because I exceeded the income eligibility requirement," the mother said, adding that she's lucky that the child care center that takes care of her child gave her a good rate that will help her cope.

The same ordeal was shared by another 33-year-old mother from Chinatown who used to have two children under the childcare program.

Her renewal application was also rejected last month because of the slight increase seen in her and her husband's income due to the 50-cent minimum wage increase implemented in the CNMI in September. They used to pay only $40 a month for childcare services, while the program shouldered $160 a month. Their children have been with the program since last year.

"Yes, we slightly exceeded the income threshold [due to the minimum wage], but they have to consider that our work hours have been also reduced [from 80 hours to 72]. All we hope now is for the department to adjust or update their income eligibility requirement and factor in the increase in minimum wage," the mother shared.

So long as DCCA will use the existing eligibility list, more and more parents may not qualify for the program, she added.

State plan

DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao told *Saipan Tribune* in an email that the department is planning to recommend changes to the current state plan to show the impact of the minimum wage hike. However, he admitted that the idea, at the moment, is merely a plan.

"It is in the plan amendment on the eligibility disposition based on 100 percent 2012 federal poverty guidelines," Faisao told *Saipan Tribune*, when asked if there is a change in the existing threshold requirement for the child care program in the CNMI.

Added burden

Another 28-year-old mother from Oleai shared that because of the non-renewal of her application for the program, this adds to the family's burden of trying to meet all their basic needs. She also lamented the state of the Medicaid program that has forced them to pay for their children's medical needs in full after private clinics refused to see Medicaid clients due to the government's growing debt.

"The situation is making it more difficult for families like us…to survive and cope with all these economic hardships. I hope they will reconsider the families' situations…if they really want to help. If not, all these government programs will defeat their purposes," said the mother.

Even if the department reopens the applications, she said this would not help them if no changes are made to the eligibility requirements.

According to Faisao, the childcare program last opened applications in April 2012. He refused to disclose the number of approved applications because the agency just received funding for the program. In fiscal 2012, DCCA opened 350 slots for renewals, Faisao said

When asked for the reason behind the decrease in the number of childcare program clients, Faisao said that parents either decide not to continue with the service or parents fail to meet the income eligibility requirement .

But one major factor, Faisao said, is the increase in minimum wage. "The major factor would be changes in income level due to the recent minimum wage increase," he said.

The childcare program is designed to assist working or studying parents avail of the services of childcare centers. *Saipan Tribune* learned that for the three-year grant cycle—fiscal years 2012-2014—funding allocated for the CNMI childcare program is $1.9 million. In a year, the volume of children under the program total more than 400 on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

LATE ARRIVAL
Poll supervisors from Rota arrive at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center at 11:15pm on Tuesday.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

FEDS

From Page 1

the new majority in the 18th House.

House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), main author of the impeachment resolution and top vote-getter in Precinct 1, said they will finish what they started.

"We have the numbers," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*, referring to the 16 pro-impeachment lawmakers and representatives-elect.

Only 14 votes are needed in the 20-member House to impeach the governor.

Rep. Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan), co-author of the impeachment resolution who won a Senate seat in Tuesday's election, said when people overwhelmingly voted for pro-impeachment lawmakers and candidates, they were expecting that they would finish the impeachment process.

Sablan also continues to urge people to sign a public petition urging U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to investigate corruption in the CNMI after similar requests to U.S. Department of Justice officials in the region fell on deaf ears.

These include the illegal release of a federal inmate in January 2010 to give the governor a massage in the wee hours of the morning at his private residence, a sole-source $392,406 ARRA management contract to a newly-resigned Cabinet member, and police and other higher-ups' alleged use of their power to shield former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham from being served summons to face charges of public corruption and Hatch Act violations.

The Fitial administration earlier described the request as "nothing more than a political ploy" but the delegate said it never was.

Sablan said when he goes back to Washington, D.C., he will ask his colleagues in Congress to help him encourage the White House and the Department of Justice "to give the Northern Mariana Islands the attention they rightfully deserve."

"I will reach out to my colleagues in Congress to help me influence the department, although they have strict requirements, that within any applicable rules and regulations, urge the Department of Justice to investigate and if they're investigating, which I think they are, then urge a little bit more effort," he said.

He said DOJ's normal response to questions about investigations is, "we don't confirm nor deny, that they're investigating anything." Sablan said that changed recently.

"But what they told me was that 'we won't confirm and we're not denying it,' so it was a change of word. It was a very good choice of words that they're investigating white collar crime in the Northern Marianas. Is that an investigation of the governor? I don't know. But the normal choice of word is again 'we won't confirm but we're not denying it so sometimes federal officials, you have to be very careful in listening to what they say," he added.

Sablan defeated the governor's delegate candidate in Tuesday's midterm elections, bagging 80 percent of the votes.

He said yesterday that three weeks before the election, they projected they would win the delegate race but the actual votes exceeded their projected numbers.

"For that I'm very grateful. What brings me greater happiness is that we asked the people to come and vote with their conscience and I am so proud. I have never been more proud of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in their resolve of the election," he added.

Sablan said the whole issue of holding the governor accountable for his actions does not stop at impeaching him.

"That's the question that's also important. Obviously the lieutenant governor becomes governor. And we also need to keep his feet to the fire. I will hold every public official accountable for anything they do now," he said, including himself.

He added that Tuesday's election result "is an overwhelming indictment of the failures and the disappointment of this administration."

Most of the governor's candidates lost the election. Those who won advocated corruption-free government and impeachment of the governor.

Fitial, in a statement on Wednesday, said that with the election now behind, "it is time for us to put politics aside and put the CNMI first."

Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), who lost his re-election bid, reiterated yesterday that the winners in the election should not lose sight of the more important things—saving the hospital, the NMI Retirement Fund, lowering utilities cost, and revitalizing the tourism-based economy.

AGENDA

From Page 1

revise HR 1466 to include more individuals or introduce a bill that would grant permanent residency or "green card" to lawful long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

"Since the beginning, we have been asking for improved status under U.S. law for long-term, legal alien workers in the CNMI, those who have been here at least five years," Sagana told *Saipan Tribune.*

Sablan, who won a landslide victory in Tuesday's mid-term elections, said he will also seek every opportunity to attach his bill to any moving immigration or justice bill in Congress.

"1466 may not be able to pass on its own but…we'll find a moving legislation that's moving forward and insert that in there," he said.

HR 1466 seeks a grant of CNMI-only resident status to immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008, and continuing to be on the islands; CNMI permanent residents; those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978; and spouses, parents, or children of U.S. citizens under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Foreign worker groups also asked Sablan earlier whether HR 1466 could be amended to include long-term alien workers who do not have U.S. citizen children.

"We got a population of 53,000. We can't send away anymore people. It's really bad for the economy. The less people we have here, the more difficult the economy is," Sablan added.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services granted parole in place to those covered by HR 1466 including foreign parents of U.S. citizen children, but those parole in place will expire on Dec. 31, 2012. USCIS has yet to make an announcement whether those parole in place would be extended beyond 2012, until HR 1466 or similar legislation is acted on by Congress.

Sablan said he would also reintroduce a CNMI submerged lands bill, a Rota national park bill, and a Tinian annex bill, and will continue to prioritize education and health during the next Congress. His third two-year term begins in January 2103.

China Eastern launches thrice weekly flights from Beijing

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tourist arrivals from China are expected to increase in coming days after the CNMI successfully secured weekly regular flights direct from Beijing starting next week, according to Century Tours vice president Alex Stutely and Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio.

These new thrice-a-week flights from China will be launched on Nov. 15 by Century Tours, in cooperation with China Eastern, which operated past charter services to the CNMI.

At present, Sichuan Airlines is the only carrier providing regular charter service from China through its four-times-a-week charter schedule from Shanghai and twice weekly flights from Guangzhou.

China Eastern will begin flying next week using an A330 aircraft with a seating capacity of 295.

Tenorio

Stutely

On a weekly basis, Stutely said the CNMI will be accommodating about 900 tourists that will help boost the tourism industry on the islands.

This is the first time that China Eastern will be operating charter flights at this volume and Stutely is appreciative of the effort, saying the additional arrivals are extremely important for the CNMI at this time. The three times a week schedule will be on until next year, he added.

Saipan Tribune learned that the thrice weekly Beijing-Saipan service will depart Beijing International Airport every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday early in the morning and will arrive on Saipan the next day—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

"Our plan is to operate one whole year around and renew after that," said the Century Tour executive. The company also charters flights from Shanghai and Guangzhou in cooperation with Sichuan Airlines.

Stutely said the opening of the Beijing market is advantageous because the economy in China is moving and tourists from the market have strong spending power.

Century Tours, a subsidiary of Luen Thai Enterprises, is a travel and tour service company headquartered in Shanghai. In cooperation with leading travel agencies in China, the company has already catered to over 100,000 Chinese tourists. Century Tours offers travel packages to island destinations such as Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, and Hawaii. Century Tours is authorized by the China National Tourism Administration and Marianas Visitors Authority to offer Saipan tourism services to Chinese tourists.

MVA's Tenorio described the additional air service from China as "absolutely important" for the CNMI. He said the China market is emerging as a very important source country for the CNMI travel industry.

He said MVA estimates the China market—with these new charter services—to bring in more than $150 million in total contribution to the Commonwealth economy through hotel occupancy, economic activity, and others.

Tenorio said the China market accounts for 40 percent of the total tourist arrivals on island. Chinese tourists enjoy the U.S. visa waiver program for the CNMI.

Drunk father charged with murder in daughter's death

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—The father of a 4-year-old girl who was killed in a high-speed crash is facing a murder charge.

The Pacific Daily News says 28-year-old Marco Nelson also has been charged with vehicular homicide while intoxicated and vehicular homicide in the death of his daughter, Daidenara Nelson. She was killed in an accident last month.

Nelson is being held on $100,000 cash bail.

Court documents say that Nelson fled police on Oct. 24 before running through a red light and striking an SUV and crashing into a concrete pole.

The girl was in the back seat. The chief medical examiner says she was strapped in only by a seat belt around her waist. The shoulder strap was behind her. She died of a broken neck and a crushed abdomen.

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CNMI is not recalling Korean noodles; WHO finds low risk

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If other countries are recalling certain noodle products manufactured in Korea, the case is not the same in the Commonwealth after the Bureau of Environmental Health was advised of the products' low risk to human health.

The bureau said that the World Health Organization has determined that affected products have a "low risk" for an identified cancer-causing substance.

In an earlier interview, BEH inspection and enforcement unit staff Lily Kapileo told *Saipan Tribune* that the BEH only recalls products at the order or instruction of WHO, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the Centers for Disease and Control.

"As per WHO [determination], level of risk is low for public health," Kapileo told *Saipan Tribune* in an email. This is why the INFOSAN has not followed up on the event. INFOSAN refers to International Food Safety Authority Network, which is part of WHO.

South Korea's Food and Drug Administration recalled six types of South Korean noodles from stores since Oct. 25 after discovering that they contain a substance called benzopyrene, known in the United States as a probable carcinogen.

Based on the KFDA order obtained by *Saipan Tribune*, the recall for instant noodles was initiated by the products' manufacturer, Nong Shim Co., Ltd.

According to the order, Korea and European Union set the benzopyrene limits in smoked fish meat products at 5 pbb. Japan and the U.S. have set no specific standards for benzopyrene in smoked fish meat but recommend that manufacturers voluntarily reduce the levels technically as low as possible.

Benzopyrene is a substance unavoidably created in smoking and heating procedures carried out to enhance flavor in foods.

"While the standards for raw materials [fish meat, fishery, mollusks, etc.] are set, the standards for benzopyrene in other processed foods are rarely set in any countries," the KFDA order stated.

It added that Korea sets no specific standards for benzopyrene in instant noodles or its powder, and the detected level of benzopyrene in the instant noodle powder manufactured in Nong Shim Co. Ltd is less than the specific maximum level for the raw material (10ppb).

"Although the detected benzopyrene has almost no effect on the human body, for the company to use violative raw materials for the final product goes against the standards for raw materials specified in Food Sanitation Act. Hence, the KFDA ordered Nong Shim Co., Ltd to take corrective actions to urge them to thoroughly manage the use of raw materials," stated the order, adding that Nong Shim was asked to voluntarily recall their products.

CUC assures: No rate adjustment

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp yesterday assured its customers that it will not be adjusting its charges on power, water, and wastewater by at least up to this month.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the fuel price in the world market did not change enough to trigger an adjustment in the last two months.

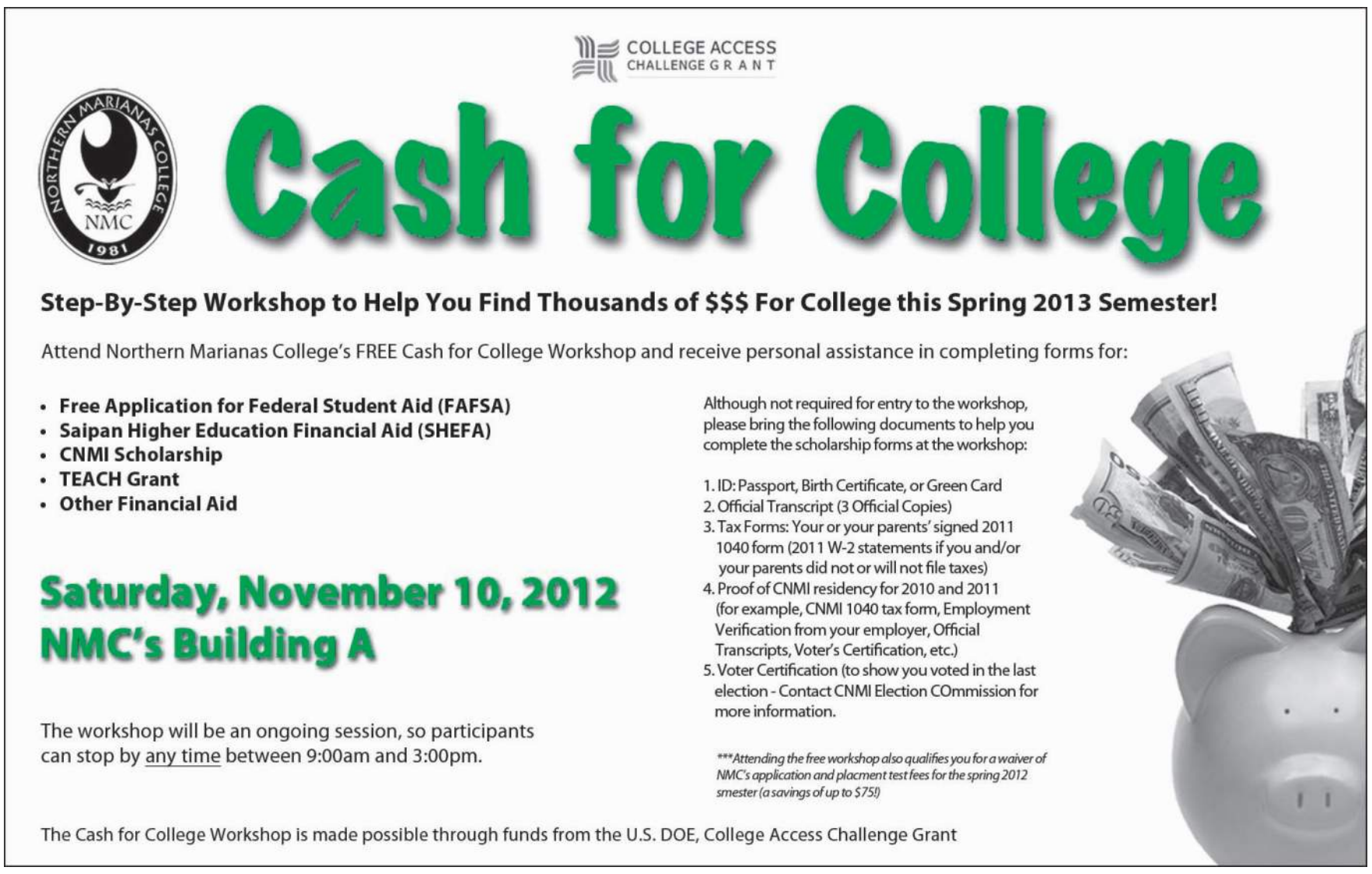
CUC last increased its rates on Sept. 6, as a result of the then unstable fuel cost in the world market. Prior to this, customers were billed a higher charge for LEAC in August this year.

LEAC is part of the customer's bill that reflects the cost of fuel. It is supposed to go up or down to reflect the cost of buying fuel to run the power plants. The other component of the bill is the electric base rate, which will also remain unchanged for now.

Because of the status quo in CUC rates, the LEAC tariff will remain at $0.31212 per kWh, while the electric charge for water will be kept at $3.66 per 1,000 gallons and the electric charge for wastewater will be retained at $1.90 per 1,000 gallons. Both water and wastewater electric rates also increased in September. Water electric charge and wastewater electric charges are only adjusted when the LEAC electric rate is changed.

The water electric charge and wastewater electric charge were set by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission during a rate hearing held in January this year.

Saipan Tribune learned that CUC has over 9,000 water customers and nearly 3,000 wastewater customers.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The Cash for College Workshop is made possible through funds from the U.S. DOE, College Access Challenge Grant

Kagman ES brothers win first Laolao Story Contest

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two students from Kagman Elementary School became the first winners of the Your Laolao Story Contest.

Brothers Michael and Michail Villagomez worked together on their entry titled *Memories of My Katu Family*, which was based on narratives of family members, including their mom, their late grandmother Carmen Ada, and stories passed down from their great-grandfather Heronimo Ada, fondly known as Tun Omu.

The winning story depicted images of farm life, reunions, and bountiful feasts that took place at their old family home that once stood at the foot of Laolao Bay, a treasure trove of memories for many local residents and center of the Our Laolao campaign.

The campaign emphasizes the shared responsibility of protecting Saipan's precious environmental resources and is highlighted by stories from the campaign's "champions" about the community treasure that is Laolao Bay.

Your Laolao Story Contest is part of the campaign and was launched in May to encourage students to apply their research skills to identify and interview individuals or families that offer insight into Laolao Bay's past.

"Enjoying Laolao Bay has been in my family for four generations," began the two brothers' story that shared vivid reports of life growing up by the bay where their ancestors caught fresh fish and farmed nearby.

"Laolao Bay is special to our family because we have a lot of happy memories: memories that started with Tata, then continued on to Grandma, then mom, and now, us," the two said.

"Now, when we go to Laolao Bay, we are reminded of our family roots and the deep connections and traditions that make us a family," they added.

An award ceremony will be held for the Villagomez brothers today at their school cafeteria as part of their semester awards program. Besides certificates, the two received a Kodak Playsport camera to help record future stories, and their winning story will be featured on the campaign website and other local publications.

Michael, the older brother, said that all they wanted was their family story and how precious Laolao Bay was to them and the people they love. Winning the contest is "a great honor," he added.

"Everyone has a story to share. Our voices count in the community, too, so don't be afraid to try," said Michael as he encouraged others, especially young people, to submit their stories to the campaign.

For his part, Michail touted the importance of protecting Laolao Bay and keeping it litter-free for families to enjoy.

"By keeping Laolao clean, we also keep these memories and stories alive," said Michail, adding that the stories of their loved ones provided them more inspiration.

The next Your Laolao Story Contest is now open, and deadline for submission is on Dec. 1. Students can pick up entry forms at their respective schools or you can visit OurLaolao.com for more information.

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Fitial appoints DPL, DPW chiefs

» 4 days before election, in time for lapse of 90-day temporary appointments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four days before the Nov. 6 mid-term elections and just in time for the lapse of their 90-day temporary assignments, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Ramon "Ray" S. Salas as Department of Public Lands secretary and Anthony A. Camacho as Department of Public Works secretary. Salas and Camacho have been holding these posts in acting capacities since Aug. 1.

Their appointments require the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations, said yesterday that his panel has not scheduled a public hearing on Salas' and Camacho's appointment yet "due to the absence of all required documents to be submitted."

The EAGI Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the full Senate whether to reject or approve the governor's nominees.

Salas said yesterday he is thankful for the governor "for giving me this opportunity to serve in his Cabinet and having the confidence in me. And I appreciated [it] very much."

Fitial, in separate letters dated Nov. 2 to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), said he and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos are confident that Salas' and Camacho's many years of service and experience in government will be an asset to the administration and the CNMI.

Like other governor's nominees, Salas and Camacho are required to submit copies of their resume, statements of financial interest stamped as having been received by the Office of the Public Auditor, drug test receipt and results, and police clearance.

Salas has been DPL Land Claims director for years before he was named acting DPL secretary on Aug. 1. He replaced Pedro Itibus, who had been acting DPL secretary since March 2012 when the governor removed Oscar Babauta, who remained with the Covenant Party instead of following the governor to the Republican Party.

Camacho, meanwhile, has been director of DPW's Technical Services Division. He was assigned acting DPW secretary, replacing Vicente B. Castro whose 90-day acting secretary appointment had lapsed. Castro and later Camacho held the DPW post in an acting capacity as a result of the governor's removal of Martin Sablan, who also stayed with the Covenant Party.

Korean Culture Week
Korean Song Contest
koreanculturweek@gmail.com, 285-2221
주최 : 한국문화원 Korean Cultural Center 후원 : 한국학중앙연구원 Academy of Korean Studies
* Where : Multi Purpose Center (Susupe)
1. 'The Understanding of Korea' Exhibition : 5~8pm, November 19,20,22,23,24
2. Experiences (King and Queen Costume Try 왕과 왕비 의상 입어보기-Photo session, Korean Movie Posters, Foods, etc.)
3. Korean Song Contest 한국 노래 대회 & 'About Korea' Quiz : 7pm~, November 23, 24
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National Flag : Taegeukgi, "National Anthem : Aegukga"
National Flower : Mugunghwa (Rose of Sharon)
Currency : won (US$1 = 1,156.3 won) (2010)
People : Population 48.87 million (South Korea) (2010)
Language : Korean (Writing system : Hangeul)
안녕하세요(How are you?)
감사합니다(Thank you.)
IKorean Waves : K-Pop, K-Cars, K-Phones, K-Cuisine and K-Movies.
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Merrier Christmas in the Marianas in the works

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Christmas celebration on Saipan will be merrier this year, with PDM Promoters, Inc., Marianas Visitors Authority, and Team PDI forming Thursday a group that would spread holiday cheer throughout December.

TAKING ONE FOR THE TEAM
Darcin Manalo of the Saipan Awaodori team takes part in PDM Promoter's Saturday cleanup at the Paseo de Marianas.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Friends of Paseo de Marianas" will be working to offer a bigger and better Christmas in the Marianas program that residents and tourists alike can enjoy in Garapan.

This is the first time that the three entities are joining forces for the holiday season, according to PDM Promoters representative Sonia Siwa.

"There will be a special event at Paseo de Marianas every Saturday of the month of December, and each event will feature live entertainment, food and game booths, and exciting competitions that the entire island can look forward to," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The monthlong celebration will kick off on Dec. 1 with the unveiling and lighting of the giant Christmas tree at the center of Paseo de Marianas.

The event will coincide with the judging of entries for the 7th Annual Christmas Tree Decoration Contest and the "My Holiday Greetings to our Visitors" drawing contest for Rota and Tinian elementary students, both by PDM Promoters Inc. Participants of the former will be decorating their trees on Nov. 30.

On Dec. 8, MVA will have its Christmas in the Marianas float competition for schools and the costume competition for elementary students. Prior to the program, contestants will take part in the parade along Beach Road.

That same day, winners of the tree decoration and drawing contests will be presented awards.

The following Saturday, Dec. 15, will feature the MVA Christmas Caroling Contest that was previously held at the American Memorial Park.

On Dec. 22, rice cakes will abound with the 4th Mochitsuki Festival. The last Saturday of the month, Dec. 29, will be allotted for the Welcome the New Year celebration.

Siwa said next month's activities are sponsored by Tan Siu Lin Foundation, DFS Saipan, and Docomo Pacific, with the support of the Office of the Governor, First Lady's Vision Foundation, Women's Affairs Office, Division of Parks & Recreation, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Public Works, and the Division of Environmental Quality.

Slots are still available for the various contests, and Siwa urges the community to take part in what would be the biggest Christmas in the Marianas celebration.

"Let's make this Christmas event in December a colorful and memorable one," added Siwa.

For information on MVA contests, call Martin Duenas at 664-3200 or 3201. For PDM events, call Sonia Siwa at 234-6900 or 989-7715.

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Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 9, 2000

DPS seeks stronger ties with the community
Business owners and residents in Garapan yesterday held a dialogue with the police yesterday in a move to reduce the crime rate in the tourist district. According to Maj. Clyde Norita and Police Officer Jason Tarkong, the meeting served as a venue to launch the program dubbed as Community Oriented Policing. "We would like the community to become partners of the police in identifying concerns instead of just calling 911 and leaving everything to the police," said Tarkong, who is the officer-in-charge of the bike patrol program.

PSS to put up its own E-rate server
The Public School System expects to partially complete this January a phase of its proposed system-wide network infrastructure with the installation of a telecommunications server equivalent to the formidable system used by the United States Airforce and the Navy. In the entire Pacific region, American Samoa's public education sector is the sole entity equipped with such facility funded through an E-rate telecommunications discount. The CNMI may soon be comparable with American Samoa once the $10,000 server is put in place next year. Technology Coordinator Mark B. Savares said the school system was supposed to tap two of the HPLC3 model servers under its original E-rate application package, which could have doubled PSS' capacity to obtain direct access to speedy telecommunication services.

Nov. 9, 2001

Firms claim ambush against industry
Top Fashion and Handsome Textile claimed that it was not properly informed on the petitions filed against the companies by the U.S. Department of Labor last Nov. 1, noting that they learned about the issue when it came out in the newspaper. According to Michael Dotts, the attorney for the companies, the U.S. Department of Labor did not serve copies of what it filed on the factories. Dotts stated that he asked Donna Hart, the investigator for the labor department, for copies of what was filed. He alleged that Hard refused to provide copies.

TANO Group gets contract for CUC sewerage project
The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has conditionally expressed its intent to award the $115,800 Gualo Rai sewer system expansion project to the TANO Group Inc. Rep. William S. Torres clarified, though, that due to the limited funds, the CUC has decided to split the project into two phases, citing a letter by CUC executive director Timothy P. Villagomez to TANO Group Inc. vice-president Robert J. Bracken. "According to Villagomez, the initial stage of the project-Phase I-will cost $65,696, while Phase II will cost $50,104," said Torres. In his letter to Bracken, Villagomez reminded the construction firm about the decision to split the project into two during its earlier discussion with CUC Wastewater Division officials.

Nov. 9, 2002

MPLA: CPA can use but can't own land
The Commonwealth Ports Authority can freely use public lands in Puerto Rico for its expansion but it cannot own them, the Marianas Public Lands Authority said. Further, the CPA cannot get the entire property covering 61,000 square meters all at once as proposed. The MPLA set forth these two conditions amid its ongoing negotiations with the CPA in connection with the ports authority's request for land transfer of the entire property. "We're not giving CPA ownership. They can only use it. They will have the right to use the property," MPLA Deputy Commissioner Henry Hofschneider said. Likewise, he said, the CPA "can't get the whole thing. We'd sit down every time they need some place."

DPH brings diabetes control to public schools
The Department of Public Health urged the Public School System to seek an improvement on its food vendors' lunch program, in efforts to deter the rising cases of obesity and diabetes in the Commonwealth. DPH Medical Director Richard Brostrom said Wednesday that the health department has sought the assistance of the PSS in raising public awareness on the risks of diabetes and obesity. Brostrom also said that the DPH has proposed that the school system take steps in ensuring that its school meal providers serve only nutritious foods.

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Hormel Chili with Beans $1.69 15 OZ. / Hormel Chili No Beans $1.79 15 OZ.	Del Monte Whole Corn 99¢ 15 OZ. / Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn $5.79 106 OZ.	Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash $1.99 6.5 OZ.	Campbells Chicken Noodle 89¢ 10 OZ.	Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) $1.39 26.5oz.	Del Monte Fiesta Fruit Cocktail $4.99 106 OZ.	Del Monte 100% Pineapple Juice $1.99 1.36 L	Diamond G Rice $13.50 20 lb.	
Chorizos $15.99 3 lbs.	Kruataia Coconut Milk 99¢	Argo Corn Starch 99¢ 1 LB.	Gold Medal Flour $3.25 37.02 OZ.	Royal Spaghetti Noodle $2.49 1 kg.	White Sugar 2kg $2.79 2 KG.	Lotus Rice 5olbs. $25.99	Vega Shrimps $5.79 /LB.	Kikkoman Soy Sauce $4.25 1.6 L.
King Chef Vegetable Oil 5gal $32.49	Country Lime Lemonade, Tang Orange, Kool-Aid $7.99	Coffee Mate $7.99 50 OZ.	Folgers Coffee $11.99 33.3 OZ.	Maxwell Coffee Mix $7.99 100CT.	Fresco Vegetable Oil $9.49 1 GAL.	Wilkins Water $2.99 6000ML	Rota Water $5.99 CASE	Ace Butane Gas $23.50 CASE

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER
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GOP suffers crushing defeat

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

There was an ominous aura all throughout the week of the crushing defeat of Republicans, replicating its own record of total defeat in the 1979 mid-term elections.

Stunning the achievement of Independent Republicans: 12 for 12, a commanding lead that came from voters whose verdict unmistakably confirms a strong mandate to restore trust and the rule of law in government. It's a decision rendered with finality.

With the pleasantries of victory, the Independent Republicans are ready to offer its Republican nemesis the olive branch: a choice of homogenized, pasteurized or silk milk. It now begins alliance with Covenant Party leadership and victors to organize the Legislature for 2013. Losers, don't fret, your fate was decided by your ill-fated choices. The Voices for the Future feels otherwise!

Clearly, folks shifted gears in a major shuffle for something beyond the usual demagoguery and the apparent obesity of "do-nothing" officials in public office. It was a crucial vote that went in favor of "We The People…" Not ready for more of the governor's antics when charm turns into devious manipulation, when self-confidence escalates to grandiosity or arrogance, when polished deceit morphs and grows into pathological lies, when tough-mindedness devolves into cruelty, and when negligence slides into foolish impulsiveness.

As the tide of the election subsides, the tide of impeachment intensifies. Independent Republicans have 12 members plus four Covenant. The House only needs 14 to impeach the governor. Brace for some colorful and explosive fireworks beginning January of 2013. Hope the GOP doesn't engage in bribery (vote buying) to derail the organizational efforts of principled victors. Divine providence has heard the voice of the tired faithful and was generous to their desire for something better than misery, the sterling crown of the GOP.

The tide of this mid-term elections will recede into history, though it would be boldly marked by the powerful desire of voters to root out corruption in government. This mid-term elections also ends the era for old warriors who've lost the pulse of their community. Like everything else, there's the beginning and the end. This is the end! The crushing defeat is a clear tale.

■■■

2012: It's all about trust

Trust is the most invaluable asset for any leader. Politicians promise it every campaign season. It's up to them to keep and build upon it or slip into the filthy trail of lies. It's a virtue that must be earned and re-earned everyday; it's hard to regain once lost.

You lose the people's trust and you're as good as dirt in the filthy swamp in some marshland nearby. When you're history, you're history! This isn't too hard to understand, is it?

I mean it's one thing to think you're LeBron. It's another thing to keep missing the basket and losing games and still think you're LeBron. You need to commit to revisiting yourself just to find out if you know yourself to begin with. If you still fail, then your next best bet is the exit door.

Hardship has sharpened people's anxieties and frustration, especially when each day is another dreaded trip to the dungeons of misery. How do you take a clear view of the future when this administration just doesn't share the urgency of people's most immediate concerns—jobs, the economy, healthcare, fiscal cliff, or bankruptcy and a tsunami of vicious hardship at the entry door of misery in

See GOP on Page 13

AND YOU'RE POSITIVE IT'S SAFE TO TURN THE TV BACK ON?
NO, BUT AT LEAST WE KNOW THE CAMPAIGN ADS HAVE STOPPED...
KOTERBA
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD

Go Gamera!

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Since I'm just a guy in a beach chair, I periodically have to add a touch of class to this column so you don't think I'm a vulgarian or something. So today I will share a foreign film from my private collection. This long-neglected classic is a delight to the senses and a joy to the heart. Made in Japan, in 1969, it was re-released in 2010 as a DVD under the "Shout! Factory" label with excellent video and audio quality, suitable for a *connoisseur de cinema* such as myself.

It is called *Gamera vs. Guiron.*

Please, don't refer to this as a "Godzilla flick." I've got nothing against Godzilla, but frankly, he strikes me as a bit of a plodder. A man of my refined tastes can only choose Gamera. Gamera isn't some lummox of a lizard, but is a true marvel of biological engineering: a giant, flying, fire-breathing, rocket-powered turtle.

The story starts with three kids in Japan; two buddies and one of their sisters. The kids stumble across a flying saucer in a field. The buddies (naturally) hop into the thing and blast off for space. The sister returns home to rat out her brother (naturally) but gets a cool reception from her mother.

So things on the home front are a bit strained, especially when the other buddy's mother drops by to ask where her kid is. Kid? What kid? Oh, that kid. Well, rumor is that he took off in a flying saucer with my son. Would you like some tea?

That's just back story, but it helps ease into the high drama in outer space. The buddies can't control the flying saucer. It's on auto-pilot on a pre-programmed route. An asteroid field menaces their route, but here Gamera makes his first appearance and clears the way. So far, so good, but it's not good for long, as great evil awaits.

The saucer lands on a planet that is ruled by two space babes. The good news: They look mighty nice in their silver, form-fitting space babe outfits. The bad news: They plan on eating the boys' brains. Raw, as a matter of fact.

The space babes have a resident monster who takes care of their dirty work: Guiron. I've got nothing good to say about this guy. He's got a body like a shark, but with short, stubby legs. His head is a giant knife blade. It's so sharp it can penetrate Gamera's shell. Also, embedded in his knife/head is a stash of throwing stars that he launches with deadly aim.

As for Gamera, well, let's look at the engineering specs. He has two flight modes. In his spinning mode, he retracts his extremities into his shell, and his rockets vector their thrust so he spins around as he flies through the air. He also has sky-surfing mode, sticking his head and arms out and swoop along like an airplane. Zoom, zoom, go Gamera!

You can probably foresee the situation here, and, yes, your worst fears are realized when Gamera has to duke it out with the evil and treacherous Guiron if the buddies are to be rescued.

It doesn't start well for Gamera. He neglects to do a recon before he lands, and so the minute he hits the landing zone, Guiron knifes him in the back; it's sort of like doing business on Saipan. For a while it looks like Gamera is a goner, and he winds up sinking into the ocean. But he eventually rousts himself, gives Guiron a solid thrashing, and saves the buddies.

So now it's time to get them back to earth.

Unfortunately, the flying saucer isn't in flying condition anymore. So Gamera puts the buddies into the saucer, then holds it in his mouth like a dog with a bone. He uses his sky-surfing airplane mode to zoom back to earth.

As Gamera enters final approach for Japan the sister spies them in her telescope. She alerts the community. Everybody scrambles out to the field: parents, cops, the media, and some scientists. Incidentally, you know the scientists are scientists because they're wearing white lab coats over their charcoal-gray wool suits. I like those kind of cinematic details. Keeps things realistic.

Gamera lands on the field. The buddies disembark, and the sister's credibility is re-affirmed. It's hugs and smiles all the way around.

Gamera's grand departure is in the spinning mode at full takeoff thrust. It's a little bit sad to see him flying away, since we don't know when we'll see him again, nor what terrifying perils and fiendish beasts he'll have to confront the next time around.

Ah, but life is like that. We close one chapter only to face the specter of the next chapter, as yet unwritten. Thus, the past, present, and future all intersect in one fleeting moment of reflection. That's why I like these films; they make me think, as only true art can do.

Go Gamera!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A President's victory speech

Editor's Note: The following is the complete text of the speech that President Barack Obama gave to celebrate his victory in the Nov. 6, 2012, elections. Text was transcribed by Saipan Tribune *staff.*

By PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Tonight, more than 200 years after a former colony won the right to determine its own destiny, the task of perfecting our union moves forward.

It moves forward because of you. It moves forward because you reaffirmed the spirit that has triumphed over war and depression, the spirit that has lifted this country from the depths of despair to the great heights of hope, the belief that while each of us will pursue our own individual dreams, we are an American family, and we rise or fall together as one nation and as one people.

Tonight, in this election, you, the American people, reminded us that while our road has been hard, while our journey has been long, we have picked ourselves up, we have fought our way back, and we know in our hearts that, for the United States of America, the best is yet to come.

I want to thank every American who participated in this election. Whether you voted for the very first time or waited in line for a very long time (by the way, we have to fix that), whether you pounded the pavement or picked up the phone, whether you held an Obama sign or a Romney sign, you made your voice heard and you made a difference.

I just spoke with Governor Romney and I congratulated him and Paul Ryan on a hard-fought campaign. We may have battled fiercely, but it's only because we love this country deeply and we care so strongly about its future. From George to Lenore to their son Mitt, the Romney family has chosen to give back to America through public service. And that is a legacy that we honor and applaud tonight. In the weeks ahead, I also look forward to sitting down with Governor Romney to talk about where we can work together to move this country forward.

I want to thank my friend and partner of the last four years, America's happy warrior, the best vice president anybody could ever hope for, Joe Biden.

And I wouldn't be the man I am today without the woman who agreed to marry me 20 years ago. Let me say this publicly. Michelle, I have never loved you more. I have never been prouder to watch the rest of America fall in love with you too as our nation's first lady.

Sasha and Malia, before our very eyes, you're growing up to become two strong, smart, beautiful young women, just like your mom. And I am so proud of you guys. But I will say that, for now, one dog's probably enough.

To the best campaign team and volunteers in the history of politics—the best ever—some of you were new this time around, and some of you have been at my side since the very beginning.

But all of you are family. No matter what you do or where you go from here, you will carry the memory of the history we made together. And you will have the lifelong appreciation of a grateful president. Thank you for believing all the way—to every hill, to every valley. You lifted me up the whole day, and I will always be grateful for everything that you've done and all the incredible work that you've put in.

I know that political campaigns can sometimes seem small, even silly. And that provides plenty of fodder for the cynics who tell us that politics is nothing more than a contest of egos or the domain of special interests. But if you ever get the chance to talk to folks who turned out at our rallies and crowded along a rope line in a high school gym, or saw folks working late at a campaign office in some tiny county far away from home, you'll discover something else.

■ You'll hear the determination in the voice of a young field organizer who's working his way through college and wants to make sure every child has that same opportunity.

■ You'll hear the pride in the voice of a volunteer who's going door to door because her brother was finally hired when the local auto plant added another shift.

■ You'll hear the deep patriotism in the voice of a military spouse who's working the phones late at night to make sure that no one who fights for this country ever has to fight for a job or a roof over their head when they come home.

That's why we do this. That's what politics can be. That's why elections matter. It's not small; it's big. It's important. Democracy in a nation of 300 million can be noisy and messy and complicated. We have our own opinions. Each of us has deeply held beliefs. And when we go through tough times, when we make big decisions as a country, it necessarily stirs passions, stirs up controversy. That won't change after tonight. And it shouldn't. These arguments we have are a mark of our liberty, and we can never forget that as we speak, people in distant nations are risking their lives right now just for a chance to argue about the issues that matter, the chance to cast their ballots like we did today.

But despite all our differences, most of us share certain hopes for America's future.

■ We want our kids to grow up in a country where they have access to the best schools and the best teachers, a country that lives up to its legacy as the global leader in technology and discovery and innovation, with all of the good jobs and new businesses that follow.

■ We want our children to live in an America that isn't burdened by debt, that isn't weakened up by inequality, that isn't threatened by the destructive power of a warming planet.

■ We want to pass on a country that's safe and respected and admired around the world, a nation that is defended by the strongest military on Earth and the best troops this world has ever known but also a country that moves with confidence beyond this time of war to shape a peace that is built on the promise of freedom and dignity for every human being.

We believe in a generous America, in a compassionate America, in a tolerant America open to the dreams of an immigrant's daughter who studies in our schools and pledges to our flag, to the young boy on the south side of Chicago who sees a life beyond the nearest street corner, to the furniture worker's child in North Carolina who wants to become a doctor or a scientist, an engineer or an entrepreneur, a diplomat or even a president.

That's the future we hope for. That's the vision we share. That's where we need to go—forward. That's where we need to go.

Now, we will disagree, sometimes fiercely, about how to get there. As it has for more than two centuries, progress will come in fits and starts. It's not always a straight line. It's not always a smooth path. By itself, the recognition that we have common hopes and dreams won't end all the gridlock, resolve all our problems, or substitute for the painstaking work of building consensus and making the difficult compromises needed to move this country forward.

But that common bond is where we must begin. Our economy is recovering. A decade of war is ending. A long campaign is now over. And whether I earned your vote or not, I have listened to you. I have learned from you. And you've made me a better president. And with your stories and your struggles, I return to the White House more determined and more inspired than ever about the work there is to do and the future that lies ahead.

Tonight you voted for action, not politics as usual. You elected us to focus on your jobs, not ours. And in the coming weeks and months, I am looking forward to reaching out and working with leaders of both parties to meet the challenges we can only solve together—reducing our deficit, reforming our tax code, fixing our immigration system, freeing ourselves from foreign oil. We've got more work to do.

But that doesn't mean your work is done. The role of citizens in our democracy does not end with your vote. America's never been about what can be done for us; it's about what can be done by us together, through the hard and frustrating but necessary work of self-government. That's the principle we were founded on.

This country has more wealth than any nation, but that's not what makes us rich. We have the most powerful military in history, but that's not what makes us strong. Our university, our culture are all the envy of the world, but that's not what keeps the world coming to our shores. What makes America exceptional are the bonds that hold together the most diverse nation on Earth, the belief that our destiny is shared, that this country only works when we accept certain obligations to one another and to future generations, so that the freedom which so many Americans have fought for and died for come with responsibilities as well as rights. Among those are love and charity and duty and patriotism. That's what makes America great.

I am hopeful tonight because I have seen this spirit at work in America.

■ I've seen it in the family business whose owners would rather cut their own pay than lay off their neighbors and in the workers who would rather cut back their hours than see a friend lose a job.

■ I've seen it in the soldiers who re-enlist after losing a limb and in those Seals who charged up the stairs into darkness and danger because they knew there was a buddy behind them watching their back.

■ I've seen it on the shores of New Jersey and New York, where leaders from every party and level of government have swept aside their differences to help a community rebuild from the wreckage of a terrible storm.

And I saw it just the other day in Mentor, Ohio, where a father told the story of his 8-year-old daughter whose long battle with leukemia nearly cost their family everything had it not been for healthcare reform passing just a few months before the insurance company was about to stop paying for her care. I had an opportunity to not just talk to the father but to meet this incredible daughter of his. And when he spoke to the crowd, listening to that father's story, every parent in that room had tears in their eyes because we knew that little girl could be our own. And I know that every American wants her future to be just as bright. That's who we are. That's the country I'm so proud to lead as your president.

And tonight, despite all the hardship we've been through, despite all the frustrations of Washington, I've never been more hopeful about our future. I have never been more hopeful about America. And I ask you to sustain that hope.

I'm not talking about blind optimism, the kind of hope that just ignores the enormity of the tasks ahead or the roadblocks that stand in our path. I'm not talking about the wishful idealism that allows us to just sit on the sidelines or shirk from a fight. I have always believed that hope is that stubborn thing inside us that insists, despite all the evidence to the contrary, that something better awaits us so long as we have the courage to keep reaching, to keep working, to keep fighting.

America, I believe we can build on the progress we've made and continue to fight for new jobs and new opportunities and new security for the middle class. I believe we can keep the promise of our founding, the idea that if you're willing to work hard, it doesn't matter who you are or where you come from or what you look like or where you love. It doesn't matter whether you're black or white or Hispanic or Asian or Native American or young or old or rich or poor, abled, disabled, gay, or straight. You can make it here in America if you're willing to try.

I believe we can seize this future together because we are not as divided as our politics suggests. We're not as cynical as the pundits believe. We are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions and we remain more than a collection of red states and blue states. We are, and forever will be, the United States of America.

And together, with your help and God's grace, we will continue our journey forward and remind the world just why it is that we live in the greatest nation on earth. Thank you, America. God bless you. God bless these United States.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

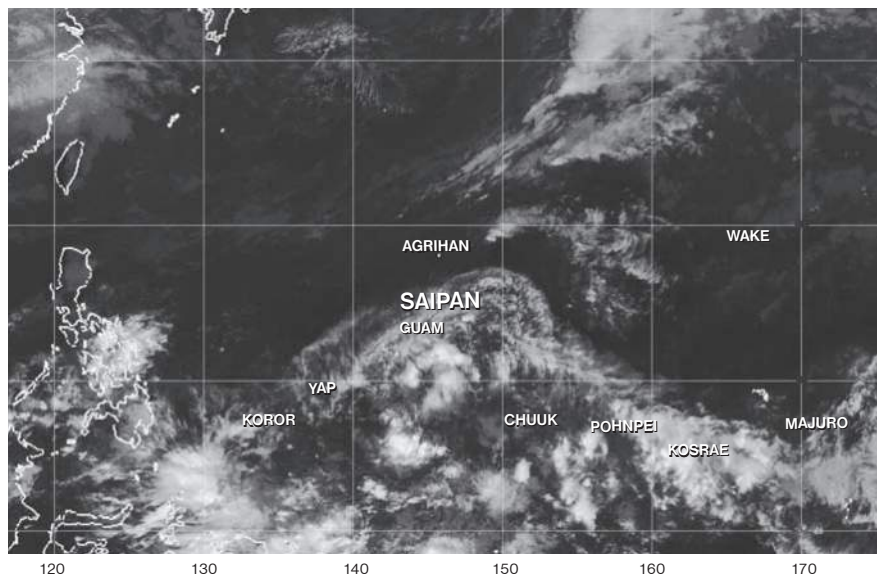
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲90	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲88	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲65	▼56
Beijing	Showers	▲45	▼31
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲82	▼71
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼73
London	Showers	▲49	▼37
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼46
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼47
Miami	Showers	▲76	▼65
New York	Sunny	▲50	▼39
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼51
Paris	Showers	▲53	▼39
Pusan	Windy	▲64	▼54
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼50
Salem	Showers	▲49	▼34
San Francisco	Showers	▲57	▼47
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲59	▼43
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼50
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲58	▼43

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N146E to 19N130E. Fragmenting stratus layers and stratocumuli with light showers are present along and up to 130 miles northwest of this boundary. A stationary front extends west-southwestward from 21N180 to 19N173E to 14N164E. Stratocumuli cumuli and isolated thunderstorms with showers are found along and up to 80 miles north of this boundary. A monsoon trough extends eastward from 7N130E to a weak circulation center near Koror at 7N135E then continues east northeast to another circulation center west of Chuuk at 8N149E and then turns to the southeast to end at EQ156E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring across and southwest of Chuuk state. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms also are occurring within 150 miles south of a line from 6N130E to 15N146E to 11N156E. Converging trade winds are producing scattered thunderstorms across the central and southern Marshall Islands between 9N and 2N from 159E to the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
9:03 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
3:47 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
10:27 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:18 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:23 AM	1:53 PM
Saturday	2:17 AM	2:36 PM
Sunday	3:13 AM	3:22 PM
Monday	4:11 AM	4:11 PM
Tuesday	5:13 AM	5:05 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCT. 27, 2012

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)			
UZ608	3:20am	6:35am	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)			
VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:10pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
OZ607	9:25pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN			
VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other week
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	11:25pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Disbelief

I was following your poll on Obama and Romney. I couldn't believe the people of Saipan were going for Obama almost 2-1. I thought Saipan was a Catholic island. Obama is for same-sex marriage, abortion including partial birth abortion, and he mandated contraceptive, abortion, and sterilization coverage forced upon religious charities, schools, and health care facilities. He also failed to provide security to the embassy in Libya, then tried to cover up the deaths of four Americans by blaming a video. I guess the people of Saipan just don't care about religion.

Jerry Kortz
via email

GOP

From Page 10

lower than abject poverty?

How does the governor persuade taxpayers of his polished deceit in the hideous and repulsive power plant agreement that adds up to $2.3 billion over a 25-year period? Why place a heavier burden on taxpayers who hardly make ends meet these days? Both the deal and dealer must go in 2013!

Too, does this administration have any rock solid plans to resuscitate the Fund? What about the economic disaster? Isn't this the sector so direly needed to spur wealth and jobs creation? Why the grand negligence? Or is its cherry picking of investors the policy today? Isn't this the major reason that triggered the exodus of foreign capital in recent years? Why the fully calibrated devious agenda and dishonesty?

But what really went wrong that resulted in the near complete sweep of Republicans from office? It ignored the principle of being principled in its work. Deviating, it lost sight of the single most important issue on its radar screen: trust. The governor and cohorts gambled with it. It didn't work! They were given a fiery and crushing rebuke last Tuesday!

Republicans lost the pulse of its people. They ignored the fact that a lot of people are hurting and hurting badly too. Our people want to recapture and rebuild these isles from the ground up. The path of change has descended, though it would be one tough task for this governor to seek peace with his peers, loaded as he is with incendiary and demeaning arrogance.

It's clear the seed of change has been planted. It has also germinated and is growing into a healthy lush green by the day. Voters planted the permanent "new seeds of change" to ascertain a government of laws far removed from statist tendencies imbedded in the exhausted incumbency. Hence, the governor will not own the room again as he once did. It's history!

Obviously, this administration has trashed trust and hope. Understandably, voters are only too wary that it's foolhardy to follow a leader into the unknown for we no longer trust him, his instincts, his antics and choices and values.

Truth matters. Transparency matters. Lies matter. Values matter. With this administration, it is becoming increasingly clear that it knows the exact calibration of political dishonesty and dodging that it can get away with. To Governor Fitial, it's politics and power that matter most, nothing else. Call it arrogance. "We The People…" have just begun rendering our version of reciprocity to restore a government of laws! And that verdict came with finality!

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My family and I were very humbled by the outpouring of support by our people in precinct 1.

From the bottom of our hearts, and on behalf of my family, I want to thank each and every one of you who, in one way or another, assisted or supported my candidacy as your Representative for Precinct 1.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisow, Maraming Salamat Po, Mesulang and Thank You very much.

Joseph Pinaula Deleon Guerrero

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RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

SDA to host 1st Family Fun Day on Nov. 11

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School will have its first Family Fun Day fundraising event on Sunday, Nov. 11, from 2pm to 6pm at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Open to the public, the carnival-themed event will showcase eight game booths that include a dunk tank, pitch burst, baseball catch game, and beanbag toss. It will also feature nine food booths.

Those who want to play in the game booths will have to pay the $1-ticket per game, which would give the player several tries to win a prize. Food items, on the other hand, range from one to four tickets depending on the item.

Virle Shay P. Gayatin, public relations director of the Saipan SDA School, said yesterday that the concept of the 1st Family Fun Day came about because of the school's desire to have another school event where students and parents can get involved and bond.

A portion of the proceeds from Sunday's event will go to individual classrooms for projects and other expenses, and Gayatin said many of the parents are more involved as volunteers to help make the event a success.

"It's a chance to have fun and, at the same time, it's also helping the school get some funds," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Gayatin, the Family Fun Day fundraising event is the first school-initiated, carnival-themed event on island.

Should the event draw positive response and become well-received by the community, Gayatin said they plan to hold it regularly and even open up the event to other vendors.

"The objective is to have fun and offer something different to the public if they don't have anything going on this Sunday," said Gayatin, inviting everyone to join the upcoming family event.

For more information, call Saipan SDA School at 234-7326 or 7330.

Paskong Pinoy 2012 at Garapan Fishing Base

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Paskong Pinoy, the signature annual Christmas event of the United Filipino Organization, will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base this year.

The event, which was held last year at the Paseo de Marianas, is slated for Dec. 15, Saturday, from 3pm to 10pm.

UFO secretary Annamae Adaza said yesterday that *Paskong Pinoy* (Filipino Christmas) will serve as a venue for many activities that celebrate the holiday season the Filipino way.

Open to the public, the Christmas event will feature the usual lantern contest, chorale contest, singing contest, live entertainment, and a raffle draw for a chance to win exciting prizes.

Interested individual and group performers may sign up by calling contest and program coordinators Olive Yana at 989-9823 or Minda Castro at 235-4286.

The evening will be highlighted by the popular Deal or No Deal game, which debuted in the first *Pusong Pinoy* event and became an instant hit.

The network of some 20 Filipino organizations in the CNMI is looking for young ladies 15 to 18 years old to volunteer as one of the 26K ladies. If interested, text Evelyn Deazeta at 989-3845.

The annual event will not be complete without the food and non-food vendors, and UFO is calling on local businesses to set up booths at the event venue by calling Lynn Dela Cruz at 235-5481 or Anna De Guzman at 989-2498.

Generous donors are more than welcome to sponsor the community event. You may Adaza at 483-5237 or call 288-1990 in the evenings.

"As always, the UFO is asking the public to support our yearly event, which is also our way of giving back to the community. We always have a reason to celebrate and feel the Christmas spirit through *Paskong Pinoy*," said Adaza.

Tokelau now completely powered by solar energy

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia.PIR)—The island territory of Tokelau has become the world's first place to run entirely on solar power.

The islands—home to about 1,500 people—recently switched on the third and final installment of its energy grid last week, which was built with the help of an AU$7 million [US$7.3 million] grant from New Zealand.

The new system saves Tokelau from importing all its energy as diesel, which used to cost up to AU$1 million [US$1.04 million] each year.

Dean Parchomchuck, the director of the company which installed the new grid, Powersmart Solar, told Pacific Beat that Tokelau residents have only benefited from the switch over.

"We've put in nearly a megawatt of solar in total, 4,000 solar panels in total," he said.

"There were lots of power cuts with the diesel generators, now their system is far more reliable and they experience far fewer power cuts."

Each of Tokelau's three island atolls has its own power grid as he says it would be unfeasible to share one due to the distance between the islands.

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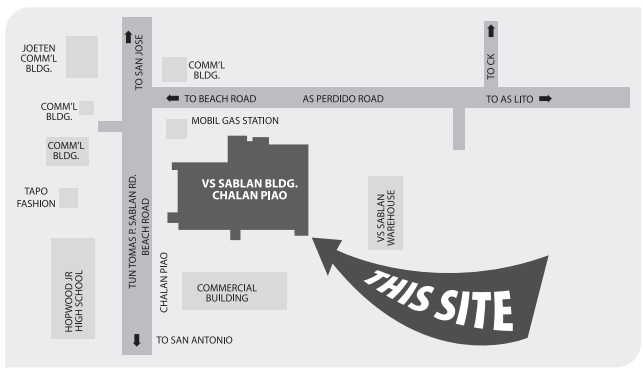

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Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-9285 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

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Medicare Part D enrollment to close on Dec. 7

There are less than 30 days remaining before the open enrollment period for the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug insurance program closes on Dec. 7.

"We are encouraging those people that already have a red, white and blue Medicare Part A cards to enroll now to avoid a late penalty fee." said Raena Celis, Brabu Pharmacy's Customer Service supervisor. "Even if you have other insurance coverage you can decrease your present co-pays for prescription drugs by enrolling. Some of our customers that enrolled last year now have zero copays for many of their generic maintenance medications. We simply bill both your primary insurance and Medicare Part D. Our software system makes this incredibly easy."

This coming year the Medicare Part D premium will drop to just $9.60 per month as reported in the www.Medicare.gov website's Q&A page. Individuals who have already enrolled and receive a notice of a potential late penalty fee can ask for a waiver if they have other insurance coverage, including Medicaid.

"Just stop by Brabu Pharmacy and we will help you fill out the proper forms and submit them for you to have the penalty waived." said Brabu co-owner Kathy Yuknavage.

Individuals who do not have access to the Internet or prefer to talk to someone directly about the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug program can call Medicare by dialing 1-800-MEDICARE (633-42273).

"Just have your red, white and blue Medicare Part A card handy to provide your membership ID to the Medicare representative. They are very helpful and patient," said Yuknavage. "If you are hearing-impaired or would like some help with the phone call, stop in to see us and we will be happy to assist you."

For more information or if you have other questions call Brabu Pharmacy at 233-AMOT (2668). ***(Brabu)***

USCG assists with rescue of 28 Taiwanese mariners

HONOLULU—An HC-130 Hercules airplane crew out of Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii, assisted with the rescue of 28 people from a burning 150-foot fishing vessel approximately 1,400 miles north of French Frigate Shoals last Saturday.

The Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu was contacted by Rescue Coordination Center Taipei, Taiwan, stating that they had been contacted by the crew of the Taiwanese fishing vessel *Chin Zuei Yin. Chin Zuei Yin*'s crew reported a fire aboard their vessel. A Coast Guard HC-130 crew was launched to assist .

Coast Guard watchstanders were able to contact a nearby vessel, the motor vessel *Sun Globe*, using the Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue System. The *Sun Globe* agreed to conduct search patterns in the reported area. Two sister ships of the *Chin Zuei Yin* also diverted to assist.

The C-130 crew located the crew of the burning vessel at approximately 10:30pm, Saturday. The C-130 crew notified *Chin Zuei Yin*'s sister ships of the new coordinates, who were able to rescue all 28 crewmembers from life rafts.

"With the vast search and rescue area of responsibility encompassed by the Coast Guard's 14th District, effective communication with our international counterparts is essential for success," said Coast Guard Lt. j.g. Keyiah Merritt, command duty officer for the Coast Guard's Rescue Coordination Center. "This evolution has been an example of our ability to save lives through just such a cooperative effort."

There were no reported injuries and the cause of the fire is unknown. Rescue Coordination Center Taipei is working with the fishing company to determine final disposition of the vessel. ***(USCG)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of 1993 to hold picnic

MHS Alumni president Vivian Sablan and Planning Committees would like to inform everyone that there will be a Class Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, at 12pm, at the Tronkun Daok, Susupe next to Minatchom Atdao Pavilion. It will be a potluck event; if you wish to bring a side dish, dessert, or sodas, it will be greatly appreciated. For more information contact Maryann Borja-Arriola at 285-0017 or Vivian Sablan at 288-1129. ***(PR)***

NMHC cancels Monday auction

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. has cancelled the auction of Lot No. 128 D 51 scheduled for Monday, Nov. 12, 2012 at 10am as noticed in the Amended Notice of Sale. The rescheduled date for the sale of Lot 128 D 51 will be held on Monday, Dec. 10, 2012, at 10am at the NMHC's conference room in Garapan, Saipan. ***(NMHC)***

SSHS PTSA meeting set

The Saipan Southern High School will have a PTSA meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2012, at the café at 6pm. For more information contact the main office at 664-4000 or email mantarayusa@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Military training on FDM set

The U.S military would be conducting military training at the island of Farallon De Mendenilla on Nov. 11, from 8am to 3pm; Nov. 13 to 15, from 9am to 3pm; and on Nov 16, from 4pm to 11pm. The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla Training on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, the Emergency Management Office is strongly advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211. ***(EMO)***

MHS PTA sets campus cleanup

Calling all Mighty Dolphin parents, legal guardians, and community members! There will be a PTA Campus Cleanup this Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, starting at 7:30am. Please come and help out as we beautify the campus for our children. We will be doing grounds keeping and painting. If you have any questions, call the Main Office at 237-3206. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy 1st birthday to our Gaga-loving, Disney Junior-dancing, Peek-a-boo-playing, lips-to-lips-kissing sweetheart, Kellen JoDanny Savea Deleon Guerrreo! Hugs and kisses from your loving sister KeoAna and brother Kelome!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 6th birthday to Marialssabella "Lia" Camacho! May you have a magical day and an awesome new year! May God continue to bless your journey! We love you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Legal Notice

If You Bought an E-book

You Could Get a Payment from a $69 Million Settlement Fund

Three Settlements have been reached with certain publishers in an antitrust lawsuit filed by State Attorneys General about the prices of electronic books ("E-books"). The lawsuit claims there was a conspiracy involving three of the nation's top publishers and others to fix and raise retail prices of E-books. These publishers have agreed to settle the lawsuit ("Settling Publishers") but deny they did anything wrong. A separate lawsuit with similar claims continues against two other Publishers and Apple, Inc.

Who is Included in the Settlements?

You are included in the Settlements if:

1. You purchased an E-book that was published by Hachette, HarperCollins, Simon & Schuster, Penguin, or Macmillan (as well as certain other names under which these publishers also publish E-books), **and**
2. The purchase was made from April 1, 2010 through May 21, 2012, **and**
3. You were a resident of 1) a state other than Minnesota, 2) the District of Columbia, or 3) one of the five U.S. Territories and Commonwealths at the time of purchase.

If you would like to review a full list of the publishers included, please visit www.EBookAGSettlements.com.

What Do the Settlements Provide?

The Settling Publishers will contribute $69.04 million into a Settlement Fund that will be distributed if the Court approves the Settlements. The Settlements also include agreements by the Settling Publishers to comply with antitrust laws, and certain orders of the Court and the U.S. Department of Justice.

If you purchased one or more qualifying E-books, depending on the retailer through which you purchased your E-books, you are eligible to:

- Receive a credit into your E-book retailer account, unless you ask for a check, or
- File a Claim Form to receive a check.

The Court must still approve the Attorneys' General plan to distribute the Settlement Fund. There will be two levels of payments, based on categories of books. While the exact amount to be paid per E-book in both categories is not yet finalized, the best estimates of payments for each E-book you purchased are as follows:

- ***New York Times*** **bestsellers:** $1.32 per E-book. These include titles that were New York Times bestsellers at any time during the relevant period; and
- **Non-*New York Times* bestseller titles**: $0.30 per E-book. These include any titles that were not *New York Times* bestsellers during the relevant period.

How to Get Benefits?

If you have received notice by email or postcard about the Settlements, the email or postcard contains instructions about whether you need to do anything to activate your credit or file a Claim Form to receive a check. If you have not received notice, you should call 1-866-621-4153 or visit www.EBookAGSettlements.com to learn more about the Settlements and decide whether to file a Claim Form. Claim Forms must be filed online or postmarked by **December 12, 2012**.

Your Other Rights

You can choose to exclude yourself from the Settlements. The exclusion must be in writing and postmarked by **December 12, 2012**. If you exclude yourself, you will not receive a credit or check. If you do not exclude yourself from a Settlement, you will not be able to sue the Settling Publishers for any claims at issue in this case. If you stay in a Settlement, you may object to it in writing, postmarked by **December 12, 2012**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object, and an Exclusion Form is available online or by mail. The Court will hold a hearing on **February 8, 2013 at 10 a.m.** to consider whether to approve the Settlements. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing.

This notice is only a summary. For detailed information:
Call 1-866-621-4153 or Visit www.EBookAGSettlements.com

Inspector General of the Army visits Guam

A key officer in the Department of the Army visited Guam last week, meeting with soldiers, and getting a pulse on current troop issues.

Lt. Gen. Peter M. Vangjel, The Inspector General of the Army, arrived on island Wednesday and visited Army units including the Guam Army National Guard, the Army Reserve, and the 3-196th Training Battalion.

While addressing close to 200 full-time members—soldiers, airmen and civilians—of the Guam National Guard, Vangjel spoke about current issues, such as budget cuts, that are affecting the U.S. Army overall.

"At the end of the day, we've got to be very efficient about how we accomplish the mission. We've got to be very, very efficient about how many people we keep on the rolls. That's going to cause leaders a little bit of angst. This is a period of transition… We're going to have to work really hard as leaders to be clear with our soldiers in particular, to make sure they understand why we're doing what we're doing," he said.

The inspector general at each major command is considered an extension of the commander's eyes, ears, voice, and conscience. The IG is a sounding board, as well as an expert fact finder for the commander. Part of the IG mission is to inquire and report on the discipline, efficiency, economy, morale, training, and readiness throughout the unit.

Vangjel conducted sensing sessions with different groups of officers during his visit. His Senior Enlisted Adviser, Command Sgt. Maj. Rogelio Davidson, who was travelling with him, also met and spoke with different groups of enlisted soldiers.

The Army IG also called on local civilian leaders such as Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo and David Sablan, Employer for Support of the Guard and Reserve chairman. He also visited other Army sites, met with commanders of the Army Reserve and the 3-196th TB, and spent time with IGs of other military services and federal agencies.

Vangjel was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery following graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the University of New Hampshire ROTC in 1977. As a lieutenant he served in various assignments in Turkey, and Fort Bragg, GA.

As a captain he commanded field artillery batteries at Fort Bragg and in Germany, as well as a recruiting company in Ohio. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Vangjel served with 1st Battalion, 27th Field Artillery as the Battalion Executive Officer. He continued on to serve in higher lever positions at the Joint Staff level. He then took command of 5th Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery (MLRS) at Fort Sill from July 1994 to July 1996.

He attended the National War College in 1998, followed by a second tour at Fort Bragg where he served as the Senior Plans Officer in the 1st Battlefield Coordination Detachment, XVIII Airborne Corps, and later took command of the 18th Field Artillery Brigade (Airborne) in June 1999.

Vangjel

After brigade command, Vangjel served as the Chief of Staff, 1st Infantry Division in Germany through July 2003. He then returned to the United States where he was assigned as the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox.

He took command of the XVIII Airborne Corps Artillery, then later deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Effects Coordinator for Multi-National Corps-Iraq through February 2006. Following his tour in Iraq, Vangjel served as the Director, Strategy, Plans, and Policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7 in Washington, DC.

In September of 2007, Vangjel assumed command of the Fires Center of Excellence, and served as the Commanding General at Fort Sill until August 2009. He became the Deputy Commanding General of Third Army/United States Army Central, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait in September 2009. Vangjel served as Deputy Commanding General from 2009 until September of 2011. During that two year deployment, he served in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait.

After returning to the United States, Vangjel was nominated and confirmed to serve as The Army's Inspector General. On Nov. 14, 2011, Vangjel became the 64th Inspector General of the United States Army. ***(PR)***

APASEEM conference lineup

The Asia Pacific Academy of Sciences, Science Education, and Environmental Management will once again host the Annual APASEEM Conference from Nov. 13 to 15, 2012, at the American Memorial Park Auditorium.

The three-day conference will feature varied scientific presentations both by experts and students.

DAY ONE

Tuesday, Nov.13, 2012

3:30pm

Presenter: **Fielding, Ms. Lauren; Goodwill, Dr. Roger. D.A.**

Affiliation: BYUH Biological Sciences Department

Title: *"New insight on Pacific Golden-Plover Migrations."*

4pm.

Presenter(s): **McKagan, Mr. Steve(a); Johnson, Mr. Steven(b).**

Affiliations:

a. NOAA/NMFS PIRO Habitat Conservation Division

b. CNMI DEQ

Title*: "Findings from the 2012 Saipan Reef Resiliency Study, A Comparison of Reef Health and The Variables That Impact Them"*

4:30pm

Presenter: **Kremer, Ms. Shelly R.**

Authors: Cruz, Justine B.; Kremer, Shelly R.; Berger, Gayle M.; Williams, Laura L.; and Camacho, Vicente A.

Affiliation(s): Micronesian Bird Conservation

Title: *"Relative Abundance and Distribution of Mariana Swiftlets (Aves: Apodidae) in the Northern Mariana Islands"*

5pm

Presenter(s) **Schafer, Nicole**.

Affiliation: CNMI Coastal Resources Management Office

Title: *"Beyond the Blood"*

5:30pm

Presenter: **Zarones, Lainie**

Authors: Lainie Zarones, Adrienne Sussman, John Morton, Sheldon Plentovich, Sarah Faegre, Celestine Aguon, Arjun Amar and Renee Ha.

Title: "*Population status, breeding biology and causes of decline of the critically endangered Mariana Crow or Aga on the island of Rota"*

Presenter: **Morreti, Mr. Greg.**

Affiliation: Pacific Marine Resources Institute

Title: Science "*Communication: Bridging the gap between science and stakeholders"*

DAY TWO

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2012

3:30pm

Presenter(s): **Denton, Dr. Gary R.W. Ph.D. (a); Namazi, Ms. Sara, B.A. (b)**

Affiliation(s):

a. Water and Environmental Research Institute, University of Guam

b. Health Center, University of Connecticut

Title*: "Indoor Radon Levels and Lung Cancer Incidence on Guam: An Interesting Paradox Emerges"*

4pm

Presenter: **MacDuff, Sean**

Affiliation: CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife

Title: "*A new way of measuring coral reef health at Laolao Bay, Saipan."*

4:30pm

Presenter: **Gubler, Ph.D., Daniel**

Affiliation: BYUH

Title: *"Total Synthesis of Farylhydrazones A and B – Unique Natural Products Isolated from Chinese Caterpillar Fungus"*

5pm

Presenter: **Kinghorn, Michael J.**

Affiliation: Brigham Young University, Hawaii

Title: "*GC-MS Analysis of Traditional Medicines"*

5:30pm

Presenter, **Martin, Clayton, Jr.**

Affiliation: BYUH

Title: *"Elucidation of Lichen Volatile Organic Compounds and Analysis of the Environmental Interactions They Mediate"*

6pm

Presenter**: Kozij, Andre**

Title: *"A Discussion on the Scarlet Gourd, Coccinia grandis."*

DAY THREE

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012

3:30pm

Presenter(s): **Dunn, Trey**

Affiliation(s): CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, Fisheries Section

Title: "*Exploring Fish Use of Managaha Marine Conservation Area"*

4pm

Presenter(s): **De Torres, Ph.D., Alfredo**

Affiliation: Dept of Sciences, Mathematics, Health, & Athletics, Northern Marianas College

Title: *"Strategies for Aquaculture Development in the CNMI: The Role of the Northern Marianas College"*

4:30pm

Presenter: **Crane, Matthew**

Affiliation: Dept of Sciences, Mathematics, Health, & Athletics, Northern Marianas College

Title: *"Plight of the Sharks"*

5pm

Presenter(s): **Trianni, Michael**

Affiliation: NOAA/NMFS Pacific Fisheries Science Center

Title: *"Comparison of life history parameters for the Thumbprint Emperor Lethrinus harak (Forsskål 1775) from different jurisdictions, and the use of differing life history parameters in a yield-per-recruit model"*

5:30pm

Presenter(s): **Gourley, John**.

Affiliation: Micronesian Environmental Services

Title: *"Characterization of the Saipan Commercial Spear Fish Industry"*

6pm

Presenters: **Furey, John; Schofield, David; West, Ph.D., Kristie** and all others involved with three recent whale strandings (Tinian/Saipan), responses, and necropsy results on one.

Affiliation(s): Several

Title: "*Recently Stranded Whales (one baleen, two beaked) on beaches and reefs of the CNMI-inhabited islands of Saipan and Tinian"*

Presenters are encouraged to contact APASEEM leaders for any mis-identified and/or due agency references, scientific credentials, topic titles, recognition of effort-supporting co-presenters, and any other changes for our "living and continuously-updated synopsis" reference, updated on the website www.apaseem.org. As you progress in your academic credential accomplishments, keep the Academy advised for future synopsis update/revisions, so that we can help lend due recognition. ***(APASEEM)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

Francisco L. Kaipat, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about February 21, 2001 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 26, 2001 under Document No. 01-268 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of 620 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00 the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 99 as Document No. 99-2896 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Amended Notice of Default on September 21, 2011. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC §4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Monday, December 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. **The minimum acceptable bid offer shall be not less than $69,000.00 the total amount due under the VA loan.**

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 8th day of November, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director, NMHC

Lot No.:	128 D 51
Area:	620 m²
Gross Living Area:	1,201 Ft²
Location:	Adilanto Loop, Sugar King Estates, Saipan
3 BR, 2 Bath	
Minimum Bid:	$69,000.00
Bid Date:	December 10, 2012
Bid Time:	10:00 a.m.
Bid Place:	NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan

Business

Economists' advice for Obama: Avoid 'fiscal cliff'

The 'fiscal cliff'

With the election behind them, President Barack Obama and Republican leaders in Congress now must turn their attention to the so-called fiscal cliff, the mix of tax hikes and spending cuts set to hit in January.

How we got to the edge of the cliff

• In summer 2011, House Republicans refused to raise the federal debt ceiling, typically a routine task, unless spending cuts were enacted to lower the debt

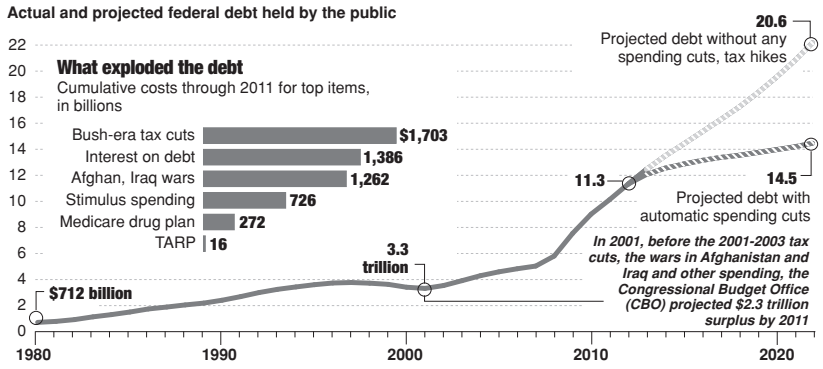
• When the two parties failed to reach a compromise, a bipartisan supercommittee was tasked with finding $1.2 trillion in budget savings over 10 years or face automatic spending cuts

• The supercommittee failed, triggering automatic cuts, called sequestration, effective January 2013; Democrats wanted spending cuts and tax increases; Republicans wanted only spending cuts

The main drivers: The Bush-era tax cuts and the federal debt

While Republicans focus on lowering the debt, they want to make permanent the Bush-era tax cuts – a major contributor to the debt – and gut federal programs to pay for them. Democrats want to let the cuts expire for households with taxable income above $250,000. The differences reflect the parties' attitudes toward government: One favors small, limited government, the other a larger, more pro-active one.

Actual and projected federal debt held by the public



The effects of failure to compromise

The CBO forecasts that a "significant recession" would result if the Bush-era tax cuts were let to expire for all and government spending is cut severely, as demanded by the sequestration.

Main taxes that will rise

Estimated tax hike for the average household $3,700

- Bush-era tax cuts expire at year's end, bringing tax rates to 2001 levels for all
- Additional tax credits for lower wage earners end
- Two percent Social Security "tax holiday" expires
- Temporary cuts for businesses end

Projected contraction, job loss

Principal spending cuts

Scheduled annual cuts, 2012-2021 $110 bil.

- Half the cuts will come from defense, half from nondefense, such as education, employment, social services, transportation, public health, administration of justice

© 2012 MCT

Source: Congressional Budget Office, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Council on Foreign Relations
Graphic: Pat Carr

WASHINGTON (AP)—So what's the first thing you'd do for the economy if you were president?

The Associated Press posed that question to more than a dozen leading economists. Asked to name the one step they'd push most urgently if they were the newly re-elected President Barack Obama, the economists sounded a few common themes:

Reduce the budget deficit. Cut tax rates. Do both, somehow.

Above all: Sidestep the "fiscal cliff." That's the package of tax increases and deep spending cuts that will take effect in January unless Congress reaches a budget deal by then. The resulting crisis could tip the U.S. economy back into recession next year.

Another popular recommendation is to embrace the bipartisan deficit-reduction plan backed by former Sen. Alan Simpson and Erskine Bowles, a former White House chief of staff. The two men, co-chairmen of a deficit-reduction commission, recommended roughly $1 in tax increases for every $3 in spending cuts.

Here are suggestions from the economists the AP surveyed:

"Strongly endorse the Simpson-Bowles plan as a template for deficit reduction. It is a sensible plan for reducing the deficit without shocking the economy."

- Ethan Harris, economist, Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

"Introduce an 8 percent federal sales tax, eliminate all deductions and use the extra revenue to reduce corporate tax rates and marginal income tax rates for those making less than $100,000 per year."

- Paul Ashworth, chief US economist, Capital Economics.

"Develop a credible bipartisan deficit-reduction plan that can be passed."

- Diane Swonk, chief economist, Mesirow Financial.

To lay the groundwork for another economic stimulus package, "I would explain to the public how the collapse of the housing bubble left a huge gap in demand that can only be filled by a government deficit, at least in the short term. The public has to understand that, just as was the case in the Great Depression, when the economy collapses the government must expand to sustain demand."

- Dean Baker, economist, Center for Economic Policy and Research.

"The economy needs pro-growth tax reform. That is the single most important action. As low a marginal tax rate as possible on the broadest tax rate possible."

- John Ryding, economist, RDQ Economics.

Fiscal cliff combines tax hikes, spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—So just what is this "fiscal cliff" that has the financial markets rattled and economists and policymakers alike in a tizzy over the potential for sending the economy into another tailspin?

It's a one-two punch of expiring Bush-era tax cuts and major across-the-board spending cuts to the Pentagon and domestic programs that could total $800 billion next year, based on Congressional Budget Office estimates.

The cliff is the punishment for previous failures of a bitterly-divided Congress and White House to deal with the government's spiraling debt or overhaul its unwieldy tax code.

The largest component of the cliff comes with the expiration of tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003 and extended two years ago in the wake of President Barack Obama's drubbing in the 2010 midterm elections.

It also includes sharp spending cuts imposed as a consequence of the failure of last year's deficit-reduction supercommittee" to reach agreement. There are other elements, chiefly a 2 percentage point cut in payroll taxes orchestrated by Obama and unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless that would disappear.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Greece narrowly passes crucial austerity bill

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's Parliament passed a crucial austerity bill early Thursday in vote so close that it left the coalition government reeling from dissent. The bill, which will further slash pensions and salaries, passed 153-128 in the 300-member Parliament. It came hours after rioters rampaged outside Parliament during an 80,000-strong anti-austerity demonstration, clashing with police who responded with tear gas, stun grenades and water cannons. Approval of the cuts and tax increases worth (EURO)13.5 billion ($17 billion) over two years was a big step for Greek efforts to secure the next installment of its international rescue loans and stave off imminent bankruptcy.

With another storm, airlines take no chances

NEW YORK (AP)—Major airlines scrapped flights in and out of the New York area Wednesday as the region was socked with the second significant storm in little more than a week. United and American suspended operations in the region by afternoon, as white-out conditions developed. Other airlines have cancelled flights too. All are encouraging passengers to reschedule are allowing them to do it for free. Airlines are quick to cancel flights ahead of major storms to avoid stranding aircraft and crews. Doing so also lessens storm-related financial losses. As of 4 p.m. Eastern, about 1,300 U.S. flights had been canceled on Wednesday, according to flight tracker FlightAware. About 40 percent of those are at Newark Liberty International Airport—which was also the hardest hit with Superstorm Sandy last Monday. Most of those cancellations were made well before the first snowflake fell.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
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Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport
Car Rental Concessions
CPA-RFP-013-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) Rental Car Concessions at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of $50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on **October 30, 2012**, at **2:00 p.m.**, at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on **November 16, 2012**, by or **before 4:30 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on November 19, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

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Tinian International Airport
Car Rental Concessions
CPA-RFP-012-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) Rental Car Concessions at the Tinian International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of $50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on **October 30, 2012**, at **2:00 p.m.**, at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

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Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
Car Rental Concessions
CPA-RFP-011-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of Six (6) Rental Car Concessions at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of $50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on **October 30, 2012**, at **2:00 p.m.**, at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

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The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Nation

U.S. presidential race

ELECTION 2012

Results as of 7 p.m. ET, Nov. 7

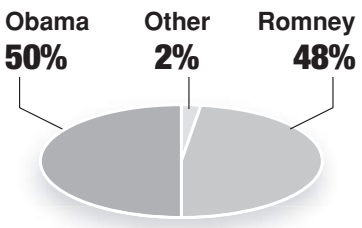
□ Denotes incomplete state tally

State-by-state popular vote

	Obama	Romney
Ala.	790,503	1,248,564
Alaska	90,743	120,329
Ariz.	713,858	902,831
Ark. □	390,245	640,075
Calif.	5,573,450	3,635,571
Colo. □	1,233,609	1,122,545
Conn. □	871,622	613,926
D.C.	222,332	17,337
Del.	242,547	165,476
Fla. □	4,143,342	4,096,314
Ga.	1,745,689	2,055,173
Hawaii	303,090	119,494
Idaho	212,560	420,750
Ill.	2,912,972	2,087,557
Ind.	1,136,196	1,409,124
Iowa	816,174	727,545
Kan.	426,547	675,424
Ky.	679,257	1,086,468
La.	808,496	1,152,460
Maine □	373,663	271,656
Md.	1,522,345	901,870
Mass.	1,899,386	1,176,457
Mich. □	2,479,094	2,090,476
Minn.	1,542,915	1,321,069
Miss.	523,464	664,359
Mo.	1,215,031	1,478,961

Popular vote

Obama 50% | Other 2% | Romney 48%



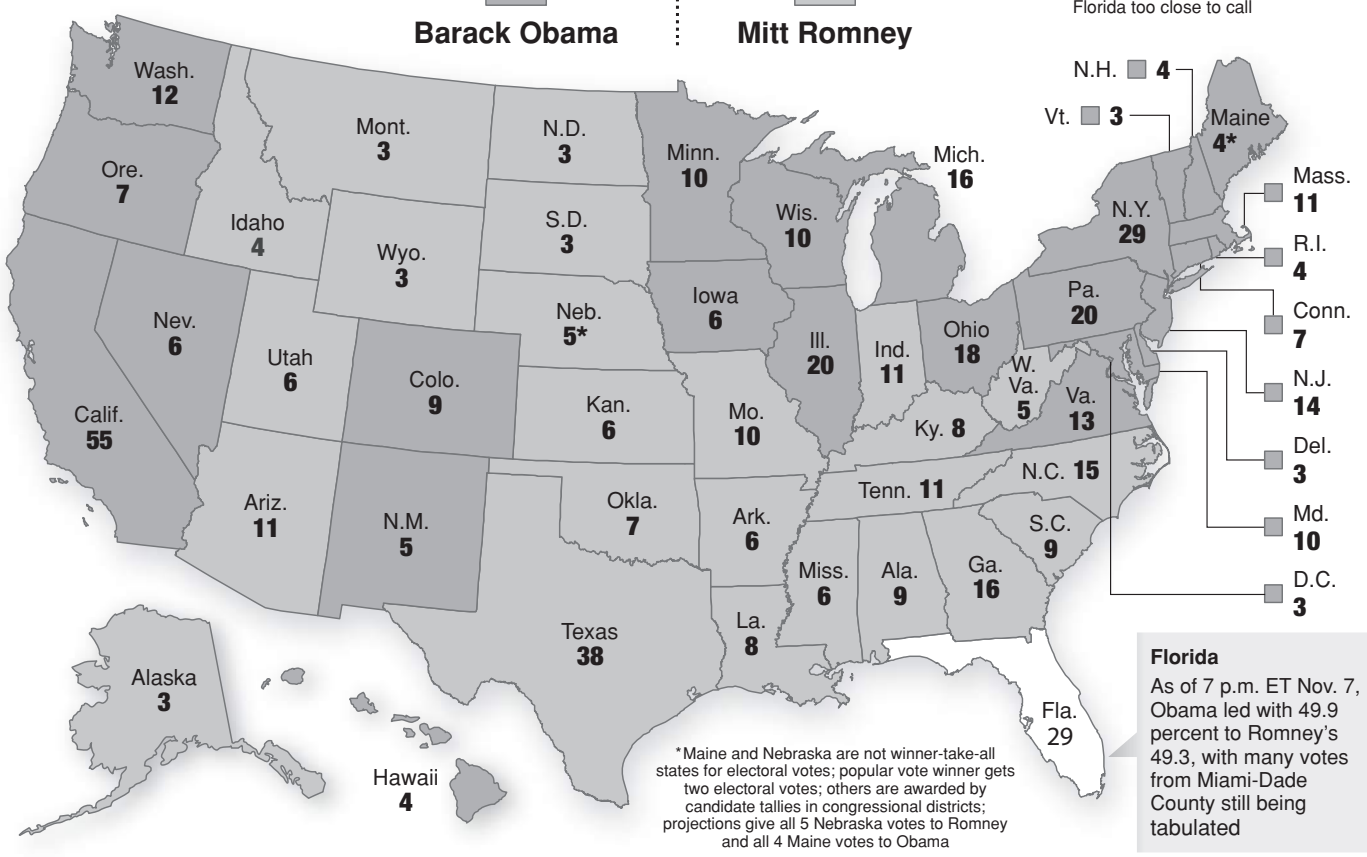
Totals with 99% of precincts counted

Figures on states indicate electoral votes won

Dems | GOP

Democrat — Barack Obama

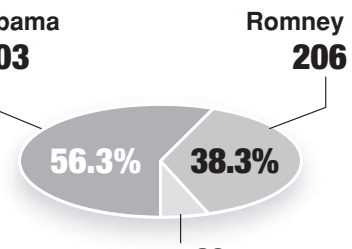
Republican — Mitt Romney



*Maine and Nebraska are not winner-take-all states for electoral votes; popular vote winner gets two electoral votes; others are awarded by candidate tallies in congressional districts; projections give all 5 Nebraska votes to Romney and all 4 Maine votes to Obama

Electoral votes

Obama 303 | Romney 206



Florida 29

Florida too close to call

Florida

As of 7 p.m. ET Nov. 7, Obama led with 49.9 percent to Romney's 49.3, with many votes from Miami-Dade County still being tabulated

State-by-state popular vote

	Obama	Romney
Mont.	191,014	250,704
Neb.	289,154	462,972
Nev.	528,801	462,422
N.H.	364,414	324,398
N.J.	1,924,329	1,361,154
N.M.	407,867	331,645
N.Y.	3,861,626	2,211,131
N.C.	2,176,284	2,273,647
N.D.	124,490	187,586
Ohio	2,683,694	2,582,939
Okla.	442,647	889,372
Ore. □	827,279	673,358
Pa.	2,901,848	2,610,537
R.I. □	263,472	147,091
S.C.	825,194	1,029,835
S.D.	144,983	210,539
Tenn.	953,043	1,453,097
Texas	3,294,440	4,555,799
Utah	229,463	671,747
Vt.	198,736	92,365
Va.	1,881,302	1,770,498
Wash. □	1,062,561	822,611
W.Va.	234,985	412,406
Wis.	1,613,950	1,409,745
Wyo.	68,780	170,265
	60,363,486	57,569,674

Other presidential candidates

• **Gary Johnson,** Libertarian Party, former governor of New Mexico; 1,158,483 popular votes as of 5 p.m. ET Nov. 7

• **Jill Stein,** Green Party, physician, ran for Massachusetts governor in 2002; 405,303 popular votes as of 5 p.m. ET Nov. 7

• **Virgil Goode,** Constitution Party, former U.S. House member from Virginia; 114,296 popular votes as of 5 p.m. ET Nov. 7

Source: AP, RealClearPolitics

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Re-elected, Obama heads back to divided government

WASHINGTON (AP)—One day after a bruising, mixed-verdict election, President Barack Obama and Republican House Speaker John Boehner both pledged Wednesday to seek a compromise to avert looming spending cuts and tax increases that threaten to plunge the economy back into recession.

Added Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.: "Of course" an agreement is possible.

While all three men spoke in general terms, Boehner stressed that Republicans would be willing to accept higher tax revenue under the right conditions as part of a more sweeping attempt to reduce deficits and restore the economy to full health.

While the impending "fiscal cliff" dominates the postelection agenda, the president and Republicans have other concerns, too.

Obama is looking ahead to top-level personnel changes in a second term, involving three powerful Cabinet portfolios at a minimum.

And Republicans are heading into a season of potentially painful reflection after losing the presidency in an economy that might have proved Obama's political undoing. They also have fallen deeper into the Senate minority after the second election in a row in which they lost potentially winnable races by fielding candidates with views that voters evidently judged too extreme.

One major topic for GOP discussion: the changing face of America.

"We've got to deal with the issue of immigration through good policy. What is the right policy if we want economic growth in America as it relates to immigration?" said former Republican Party Chairman Haley Barbour. Obama drew support from about 70 percent of all Hispanics. That far outpaced Romney, who said during the Republican primaries that illegal immigrants should self-deport, then spent the general election campaign trying to move toward the political middle on the issue.

The maneuvering on the economy—the dominant issue by far in the campaign—began even before Obama returned to the White House from his hometown of Chicago.

After securing a second term, the president is committed to bipartisan solutions "to reduce our deficit in a balanced way, cut taxes for middle class families and small businesses and create jobs," and he told congressional leaders as much in phone calls, the White House said.

Boehner, whose anti-tax Republicans renewed their House majority on Tuesday, said GOP legislators were "willing to accept new revenue under the right conditions." That means tax reform and economic growth rather than raising rates, he emphasized, and accompanying steps to rein in the government's big benefit programs.

"The question we should be asking is not `which taxes should I raise to get more revenue, but rather: which reforms can we agree on that will get our economy moving again?" the Ohio Republican said at the Capitol.

While both the president and Boehner sent signals of bipartisanship, there remain wide differences between the two on specifics. At the same time, each man has something of a postelection mandate, given Obama's re-election and the Republicans' successful defense of their House majority.

The reference to a balanced approach to deficit reduction reflected Obama's campaign-long call for higher taxes on incomes above $200,000 for individuals and $250,000 for couples.

That was something Boehner made plain he opposes.

Reid told reporters that any solution should include higher taxes on "the richest of the rich." That was in keeping with Obama's election platform, which calls for the expiration of tax cuts on higher-income earners.

Barring legislation to avoid the "fiscal cliff" by year's end, taxes are on course to rise by more than $500 billion in 2013, and spending is to be cut by an additional $130 billion or so, totals that would increase over a decade. The blend is designed to rein in the federal debt, but officials in both parties warn it poses a grave threat to an economic recovery that has been halting at best.

Obama and congressional leaders in both parties say they want an alternative, but serious compromise talks were non-existent during the fierce campaign season.

That ended Tuesday in an election in which more than 119 million votes were cast, mostly without controversy despite dire predictions of politically charged recounts and lawsuits while the presidency hung in the balance.

Obama won the popular vote narrowly, the electoral vote comfortably, and the battleground states where the campaign was principally waged in a landslide.

The president carried seven of the nine states where he, Romney and their allies spent nearly $1 billion on television commercials, winning Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, Colorado and Virginia.

The Republican challenger won North Carolina, and Florida remained too close to call

Obama also turned back late moves by Republicans in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Minnesota.

Hispanics account for a larger share of the population than the national average in Nevada and Colorado, two of the closely contested battleground states. The president's outsized majority among Hispanics—in the range of 70 percent according to Election Day interviews with voters—helped him against a challenger who called earlier in the year for self-deportation of illegal immigrants.

Other factors in crucial states:

■ In Ohio, roughly 60 percent of all voters said they favored the Obama administration's auto bailout, and the president captured nearly three quarters of their votes, according to the survey, conducted for The Associated Press and a group of television networks. He stressed the rescue operation throughout the campaign. Romney opposed it, and in late campaign commercials suggested it had contributed to the loss of U.S. jobs overseas.

■ In Virginia, the black vote was roughly half again as big in percentage terms as nationally, also an aid to Obama.

Changes are in store for the victorious administration. The election past, three members of Obama's Cabinet have announced plans to leave their posts: Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. Other changes would not be unusual in the second administration of any president.

As for Congress, Democrats improbably gained seats in re-establishing their Senate majority. Their final margin hinged on a decision by independent Sen.-elect Angus King of Maine, who has not yet said which party he will affiliate with.

Asia

China's Hu urges firm party control, curb on graft

BEIJING (AP)—Preparing to hand over power after a decade in office, China's President Hu Jintao called Thursday for sterner measures to combat official corruption that has stoked public anger while urging the Communist Party to maintain firm political control.

In a 90-minute speech opening a weeklong party congress to usher in new leaders for the coming decade, Hu cited many of the challenges China faces—a rich-poor gap, environmentally ruinous growth and the imbalanced development between prosperous cities and a struggling countryside.

Yet he offered little evidence of fresh thinking to address ways to reinvigorate a flagging economy and meet public demands for a more open government. Instead he outlined more of the piecemeal policy-making that has been the hallmark of his 10 years in power.

Only in addressing the rampant graft did he sound the alarm. Hu singled out party members, calling on them to be ethical and to rein in their family members, whose trading on their connections for money and lavish displays of wealth have deepened public cynicism about the party. "Nobody is above the law," Hu said to the applause of the 2,309 delegates and invited guests gathered in the Great Hall of the People, with his successor, Vice President Xi Jinping, and other party notables on the dais behind him.

He later said, "If we fail to handle this issue well, it could prove fatal to the party, and even cause the collapse of the party and the fall of the state."

The tough appeal on corruption follows months of scandal that have further battered the party's image in the public eye and made the power transfer more divisive. A senior politician, Bo Xilai, was purged for involvement in covering up his wife's murder of a British businessman, but only after rumors, trials and media reports that portrayed party leaders as more interested in power than in governing.

AP

Chinese President Hu Jintao attends the opening session of the 18th Communist Party Congress held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, Thursday, Nov. 8, 2012.

The congress, held once every five years, initiates a carefully choreographed but still fraught political transition in which Hu and most of the senior leadership in the 60s begin to relinquish office to Xi and his 50-something colleagues over the next five months.

Scandal aside, the transition always invites tough bargaining, as exiting leaders and still-powerful retired party elders try to place protégés and allies in the leadership. Stakes have seemed higher still this year for the party and the public, with China seemingly facing a turning point. The old model of heavily state-directed growth that lifted hundreds of millions out of poverty and made China an economic powerhouse is faltering in the face of rising domestic debt and a weak global economy. Meanwhile, the government has to contend with the public's continued expectations of higher living standards and for less corruption and greater accountability, if not outright democracy.

In a sign of the public disquiet, four ethnic Tibetans in Sichuan and Qinghai provinces set themselves on fire on the eve of the congress in protests against Chinese rule of Tibetan areas, London-based rights group Free Tibet said, adding that it was the most such self-immolations in a single day.

At dawn in Tiananmen Square, next to the congress venue, a woman in her 30s threw pieces of torn paper into the air and shouted "bandits and robbers!"—a curse often leveled at corrupt local officials. She was taken away by the security forces which have smothered all of Beijing for the congress.

Taxi drivers have even been told to remove window handles to block any drive-by sloganeering.

ASIA BRIEFS

Rights group: 4 Tibetans self-immolate in 24 hours

BEIJING (AP)—A London-based rights group says four Tibetans set fire to themselves in the past 24 hours to protest Chinese rule over the Himalayan region. It says this includes the first documented case of a triple self-immolation. Free Tibet says three Tibetan monks aged 15 and 16 set themselves on fire Wednesday afternoon outside a police office in southwest Sichuan province. Then in the evening a 23-year-old Tibetan nomadic woman self-immolated in western Qinghai province. The group says it's the largest number of confirmed self-immolations in any one day.

23 saved, 50 missing in Bangladesh boat accident

TEKNAF, Bangladesh (AP)—Nearby fishing boats helped rescue 23 people after a boat crowded with illegal migrants capsized Wednesday off Bangladesh's coast, but about 50 others remained missing, officials said. About 70 illegal migrants, mostly Rohingya Muslims, were reportedly traveling on the boat to Malaysia when it sank in the Bay of Bengal. Border commander Lt. Col. Zahid Hossain said no bodies had been recovered so far, but quoted survivors as saying they saw some bodies after the boat sank off Bangladesh's Teknaf coast, 320 kilometers (200 miles) south of Dhaka.

SKorea probing falsely certified nuclear parts

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—An official says South Korea's nuclear watchdog is investigating a forgery scandal that is forcing the shutdown of two reactors and sparked fears of unprecedented power shortages this winter. Nuclear Safety and Security Commission spokeswoman Shim Eun-jung said Tuesday her agency is checking forged safety certificates and will invite civilian experts to participate. South Korea announced Monday that it found five nuclear reactors running with falsely certified components. Officials say two reactors with the highest concentration of those parts have either shut down or will do so Tuesday.

Truck bomb rocks Pakistan's largest city, kills 1

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—A suicide bomber smashed a truck packed with explosives into housing for a paramilitary force protecting Pakistan's largest city, killing at least one person in the explosion Thursday morning that sent a large plume of smoke into the sky, officials said. The blast underlined deteriorating security in Karachi, the sprawling port city of 18 million people that is considered the economic heart of Pakistan. Violence has escalated in recent years in the city as armed groups fight for control of land and resources, and militant groups like the Taliban have used the chaos to consolidate their foothold. One dead body had been brought to the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital from the early morning explosion, Dr. Saleem Memon said.

Suu Kyi wants Myanmar govt to act against unrest

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and lawmakers from ethnic minority parties are calling on the government to deploy more troops to restore peace and stability in a western state hit by recent deadly violence between Buddhists and Muslims.

They issued a statement Wednesday urging the government to explain its policies on handling the ethnic conflict in Rakhine state, where officials say about 90 people were killed last month and more than 30,000 made homeless.

They stressed that the concerns of both groups—Rakhine Buddhists and Rohingya Muslims—should be addressed.

In earlier violence in June, about the same number of people were killed and 75,000 were made homeless.

Suu Kyi has emphasized the necessity of restoring the rule of law and dealing with the root causes of the tensions.

Many of her foreign supporters have been disappointed that she has not taken a stand condemning discrimination toward the Rohingya, who have suffered most of the casualties and losses in the latest violence.

The statement also said the government should be clear about how it intends to apply a 1982 law that deals with the rules for citizenship for those who consider themselves Rohingya. Most of the U.N.-estimated 800,000 Rohingya in Myanmar are stateless.

The statement did not mention neighboring Bangladesh by name, but suggested that it contributed to the problem. Many in Myanmar regard the Rohingya as being mostly illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, though the number in that category is hotly debated.

"Both governments that share common boundaries should respect and take responsibility for border security and immigration matters," it said. "It is imperative that both countries systematically prevent border crossings and ensure border security."

Bangladesh also refuses to consider the Rohingya its citizens, and blocks those trying to enter from Myanmar, though it houses many in refugee camps.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-DEQ-017

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 28, 2012 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"WATER QUALITY STANDARDS (WQS) TRI-ENNIAL REVIEW FOR THE DIVISION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER **OCTOBER 26, 2012** AT THE DEQ OFFICE OR CAN BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO **clarissabearden@deq.gov.mp**

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **NOVEMBER 14, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME** IN THE 2ND FLOOR DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE FAXED TO MS. REINA CAMACOH (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO **clarissabearden@deq.gov.mp** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **NOVEMBER 16, 2012**.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE ***IS NOT AVAILABLE*** BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-DEQ-020

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 26, 2012 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PESTICIDE SAFETY AND EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE DIVISION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER **OCTOBER 26, 2012** AT THE DEQ OFFICE OR CAN BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO **reinacamacho@deq.gov.mp**

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE FAXED TO MS. REINA CAMACOH (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO **reinacamacho@deq.gov.mp** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **NOVEMBER 14, 2012**.

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/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-008

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package and the scope of work may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 13, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)** at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-008, Workers' Compensation & Administration", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than December 4, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions regarding CUC-RFP-13-008 must be submitted in writing no later than **November 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

World

Powerful quake hits Guatemala, killing at least 39

SAN MARCOS, Guatemala (AP)—A 7.4-magnitude earthquake rocked Guatemala on Wednesday, killing at least 39 people as it toppled thick adobe walls, shook huge landslides down onto highways, and sent terrified villagers streaming into the streets of this idyllic mountain town near the border with Mexico. One hundred people were missing, and hundreds were injured.

The quake, which hit at 10:35 a.m. in the midst of the work day, caused terror over an unusually wide area, with damage reported in all but one of Guatemala's 22 states and shaking felt as far away as Mexico City, 600 miles to the northwest.

San Marcos, where more than 30 homes collapsed, bore the brunt of the temblor's fury.

More than 300 people, including firefighters, policemen and villagers, tried to dig through a half ton of sand at a quarry in the commercial center of town in a desperate attempt to rescue seven people believed buried alive. Among those under the sand was a 6-year-old boy who had accompanied his grandfather to work.

"I want to see Giovanni! I want to see Giovanni!" the boy's mother, 42-year-old Francisca Ramirez, frantically cried. "He's not dead. Get him out." She said the boy's father had emigrated to the U.S. and there was no way to reach him.

AP

Residents walk among rubble after a magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck in San Marcos, Guatemala, Wednesday Nov. 7, 2012.

President Otto Perez Molina flew to San Marcos to view the damage. He said the death toll stood at 39, most of it in this lush mountainous region of 50,000 indigenous farmers and ranchers, many belonging to the Mam ethnic group.

"One thing is to hear about what happened and another thing entirely is to see it," Perez told The Associated Press. "As a Guatemalan I feel sad ... to see mothers crying for their lost children."

The president said the government would pay for the funerals of all victims in the poor region.

Many of the colorful adobe buildings in the 10-square-mile center of San Marcos were either cracked or reduced to rubble, including the police station and the courthouse. The temblor left a large gash in one of the streets, and hundreds of frightened villagers stood in the open, refusing to go back inside.

Hundreds of people crammed into the hallways of the small town hospital waiting for medical staff to help out hundreds of injured family members, some complaining they were not getting care quickly enough.

Ingrid Lopez, who went to the hospital with a 72-year-old aunt whose legs was crushed by a falling wall, said she had waited hours for an X-ray.

"We ask the president to improve conditions at the hospital," she said. "There isn't enough staff." The quake, which was 20 miles deep, was centered 15 miles off the coastal town of Champerico and 100 miles southwest of Guatemala City. It was the strongest earthquake to hit Guatemala since a 1976 temblor that killed 23,000.

Officials said 100 people were missing, most in San Marcos, which is surrounded by mountains covered in vegetation. The mainly indigenous inhabitants farm corn and heard cattle, mostly for their own survival.

Hospital officials in San Marcos said they had received 150 injured.

"I've been in Guatemala for almost two years and I am used to earthquakes. This was a lot more severe, a lot more shaky," said Peace Corps volunteer Adam Baker, 27, of Carmel, Indiana, who tweeted a picture of a small landslide behind his house in the nearby state of Quetzaltenango. "Things fell in my kitchen."

Perez said more than 2,000 soldiers were deployed from a base in San Marcos to help with disaster relief. A plane had already made two trips with special disaster relief teams to the area. He asked that people stay put as emergency crews try to get to victims on the few roads that had not been blocked by landslides or debris. He also encouraged people in the affected areas to stay outside and away from tall buildings.

Syria opposition in exile fails to elect women

DOHA, Qatar (AP)—Syria's main opposition bloc elected an all-male leadership team early Thursday, undermining its own bid to showcase itself as a more diverse group that can represent all those trying to oust President Bashar Assad.

The Syrian National Council's general assembly of some 420 members chose a 40-member leadership body after hours of voting at a conference held at a hotel in the Qatari capital of Doha. The 40-member group is to choose an 11-member executive body and an SNC president later Thursday.

The SNC, largely made up of exiles and heavily influenced by the Muslim Brotherhood, has been criticized as ineffective and out of touch with those trying to topple Assad. The U.S. wants a more cohesive and representative opposition, suggesting the SNC's leadership days are over.

When the SNC election results were announced, women delegates jumped up in protest. Some of the male delegates joined their demands that several women be added to the leadership group retroactively.

"This is a big problem," Rima Fleihan, a Syrian writer and women's activists, said of the marginal role of women in the political opposition in exile, noting that women in Syria are key activists in anti-regime protests.

SNC officials said Wednesday that the internal election may not be enough to deflect criticism of the group and halt U.S.-backed efforts to set up a broader opposition leadership council in which the SNC's influence would be diluted.

Under that plan, Syrian dissident Riad Seif initially proposed the SNC would receive only 15 out of 50 seats in the new group, to make room for activists from inside Syria. Seif's plan is to be discussed Thursday at a wider meeting of opposition groups.

SNC spokesman George Sabra said he believes the U.S. and Qatar support a new opposition leadership along those lines, even if the final details still need to be sorted out. He said the opposition is under intense pressure to conclude a deal before leaving Doha.

SNC leaders met Tuesday with U.S. diplomats on the sidelines of the Doha conference, said Sabra, who attended the discussions.

The diplomats, including the U.S. ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford, told the SNC that Washington wants to see a unified opposition negotiate a political transition with members of the Syrian regime who don't have blood on their hands, said Sabra and another participant, SNC political strategist Louay Safi.

The U.S. diplomats reiterated that the Washington would not intervene militarily, either by sending weapons or enforcing a no-fly zone to assist the rebels, said Safi and Sabra. Assad and members of his inner circle would have to leave before such talks can begin, they said of the U.S. position.

British Prime Minister David Cameron has suggested that Assad could be allowed safe passage out of the country if that would guarantee an end to the nation's civil war.

Puerto Rico vote endorses statehood with asterisk

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Ricans have supported U.S. statehood in a vote that jubilant members of the pro-statehood party say is the strongest sign yet that the Caribbean island territory is on the road to losing its second-class status.

But Tuesday's vote comes with an asterisk and an imposing political reality: The island remains bitterly divided over its relationship to the United States and many question the validity of this week's referendum.

Nearly a half million voters chose to leave a portion of the ballot blank. And voters also ousted the pro-statehood governor, eliminating one of the main advocates for a cause that would need the approval of the U.S. Congress.

"Statehood won a victory without precedent but it's an artificial victory," said Angel Israel Rivera Ortiz, a political science professor at the University of Puerto Rico. "It reflects a divided and confused electorate that is not clear on where it's going."

President Barack Obama had said he would support the will of the Puerto Rican people on the question of the island's relationship to the U.S., referred to simply on the island as its "status," and this week's referendum was intended to be the barometer.

But the results aren't so clear cut. It was a two-part ballot that first asked all voters if they favor the current status as a U.S. territory. Regardless of the answer, all voters then had the opportunity to choose in the second question from three options: statehood, independence or "sovereign free association," which would grant more autonomy to the island of nearly 4 million people. More than 900,000 voters, or 54 percent, responded "no" to the first question, saying they were not content with the current status.

On the second question, only about 1.3 million voters made a choice. Of those, nearly 800,000, or 61 percent of those expressing an opinion, chose statehood—the first majority after three previous referendums on the issue over the past 45 years. Some 437,000 backed sovereign free association and 72,560 chose independence. Nearly 500,000, however, left that question blank.

Granny Obama, Kenya celebrate White House win

KOGELO, Kenya (AP)—Waving her walking cane and smiling broadly, the step-grandmother of Barack Obama celebrated Wednesday as this tiny Western Kenyan village danced and rejoiced after the United States president won four more years in the White House.

Kogelo, a dirt-road town where children play soccer in bare feet, was the home of Barack Obama's father, and claims several relatives of the president among its population. The family matriarch is Sarah Obama, who was married to the president's late grandfather.

"Take the great job that people have given to you and lead them well," Sarah Obama advised her relative by marriage after his victory. "They have shown immense love to have voted for you."

Residents hoisted branches of green leaves, red plastic chairs and even one-speed bicycles into the air to celebrate Obama's win.

"The community is happy. The community is waking up from their sleep to come and celebrate," said Kennedy Rajula, the president's cousin.

Sarah Obama is the second wife of Obama's paternal grandfather. Obama referred to her as "Granny" in his memoir, "Dreams from My Father," and described meeting her during his 1988 trip to his father's homeland and their awkwardness as they struggled to communicate.

Off The Wall

AP

An outdoor crucifix that used to stand at St. Patrick's Church in the city of Newburgh, N.Y. is seen in an undated photo provided by the Kitson Law Firm.

NY man who lost leg in crucifix mishap sues church

By CHRIS CAROLA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—David Jimenez was so elated over his wife's recovery from cancer that he offered to clean the large crucifix outside the Hudson Valley church where he spent many hours praying for her to beat the disease. On Memorial Day 2010, he was scrubbing grime off the cross when the 600-pound marble statuary toppled over, crushing his right leg.

The then-43-year-old immigrant from Mexico was flown to Westchester Medical Center, where doctors had to amputate his injured leg. He's suing the Roman Catholic church where he was hurt, and early next year his $3 million lawsuit is scheduled to go to trial.

"He attributed her recovery to his devotion to the cross and Christ hearing his prayers," Jimenez's lawyer, Kevin Kitson of White Plains, told The Associated Press.

Kitson said he filed the lawsuit in March 2011 after the church denied it was liable for the accident that resulted in six-figure medical bills for Jimenez. The bills were paid by charitable foundations, Kitson said.

The lawsuit is scheduled to go to trial in state Supreme Court in Orange County in January, Kitson said.

The attorney described David and Delia Jimenez as devout Catholics who immigrated to the United States from Mexico nearly 20 years ago. They have three children, ages 3, 13 and 17, Kitson said.

During delivery jobs for a bakery and a pizzeria, David would pull into the parking lot at St. Patrick's Church in the city of Newburgh to pray before the outdoor crucifix for his wife, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2008. When she was deemed cancer-free two years later, the grateful David received permission from church officials to remove trash from the area around the crucifix, and to clean the crucifix itself, Kitson said.

On May 30, 2010, Jimenez was standing on the crucifix's base, using rags and soapy water to clean Christ's face. While holding onto the cross beam for balance, the whole crucifix snapped off at its base, sending Jimenez crashing to the ground, Kitson said. Pieces of the crucifix broke off, but the bulk of it landed on Jimenez's right leg, crushing it.

Kitson said only a single screw was holding the heavy crucifix to its base.

"There was no anchoring system, just that one screw," he said.

The church raised more than $7,000 for Jimenez and his family, but Kitson said his client has been unable to work since the accident.

Frank Raia of Rikin Radler, the New York law firm representing the church, wouldn't discuss specifics of the case. The church is part of the Archdiocese of New York, which isn't named as a defendant in the lawsuit, Raia said.

"Although the archdiocese and St. Patrick's Church recognize and understand this was a terrible accident and they have empathy for Mr. Jimenez and his family, it's our position that of the diocese and St. Patrick's Church are not liable for the accident."

Kitson's law firm said Wednesday that David Jimenez isn't doing interviews with the media.

Woman who drove on sidewalk must wear 'idiot' sign

CLEVELAND (AP)—A woman caught on camera driving on a sidewalk to avoid a Cleveland school bus that was unloading children will have to stand at an intersection wearing a sign warning about idiots.

Court records show a Cleveland Municipal Court judge on Monday ordered 32-year-old Shena Hardin to stand at an intersection for two days next week. She will have to wear a sign saying: "Only an idiot drives on the sidewalk to avoid a school bus."

The judge ordered her to wear the sign from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. both days.

Hardin's license was suspended for 30 days and she was ordered to pay $250 in court costs.

Messages seeking comment were left at a telephone listing for Hardin and at her attorney's office.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Deer crashes through Pittsburgh-area carpet store

CASTLE SHANNON, Pa. (AP)—This deer wasn't caught in the headlights. It was called on the carpet. A Pittsburgh-area carpeting store has been cleaning up after the wild animal smashed into the store and ran amok Tuesday. Jill Horvatic, an employee of Stout Carpeting in Castle Shannon, tells WPXI-TV that she hid while the animal ran around, crashing into displays and damaging other items. Horvatic says, "I was shaking. I haven't felt like that ever in my life. For 20 minutes all I heard was banging and glass shattering. It was horrifying." Police were able to get the deer out of the store before anybody got hurt.

Man sentenced for stealing lobsters for drug habit

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania man could spend up to 25 years in prison for stealing lobsters he planned to sell to support his drug habit. Authorities say 47-year-old Charles Shumanis III repeatedly stole lobsters and meat from Allentown-area supermarkets, including a botched March 1 theft that included a parking lot car-jacking. Police say Shumanis stole meat and lobsters on two other occasions before he was confronted when he walked out of the store with $350 in lobsters. A Lehigh County judge on Monday recommended Shumanis serve time at a state prison able to help him deal with his drug and alcohol problems. Shumanis pleaded guilty in September to charges including retail theft and robbery of a motor vehicle.

Ex-mayor erects statue of himself at Michigan home

DAVISON TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—The former mayor of Flint, Mich., who resigned in 2009 while facing a recall has erected a bronze statue of himself outside the gated entrance to his home. The Flint Journal reports that the statue of Don Williamson in Genesee County's Davison Township, near Flint, is surrounded by six bronze lions. On the base of the statue are the words: "The Colonel's Inc. Founded by Donald J. Williamson May 10, 1984. His motto 'Success is the best revenge.'" Williamson says the statue was made 20 years ago and was originally displayed at The Colonel's Inc., the auto parts firm where he made his fortune. Williamson says the lions were imported by his wife. Of the lion statues, he joked: "Careful, one of them is alive."

Elephant in South Korean zoo imitates human speech

Koshik, a 22-year-old Asian elephant, puts his trunk in his mouth to modulate sound next to his chief trainer, Kim Jong-gab, at the Everland amusement park in Yongin, South Korea, Friday, Nov. 2, 2012.

AP

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—An elephant in a South Korean zoo is using his trunk to pick up not only food, but also human vocabulary.

An international team of scientists confirmed Friday what the Everland Zoo has been saying for years: Their 5.5-ton tusker Koshik has an unusual and possibly unprecedented talent.

The 22-year-old Asian elephant can reproduce five Korean words by tucking his trunk inside his mouth to modulate sound, the scientists said in a joint paper published online in Current Biology. They said he may have started imitating human speech because he was lonely.

Koshik can reproduce "annyeong" (hello), "anja" (sit down), "aniya" (no), "nuwo" (lie down) and "joa" (good), the paper says.

One of the researchers said there is no conclusive evidence that Koshik understands the sounds he makes, although the elephant does respond to words like "anja."

Everland Zoo officials in the city of Yongin said Koshik also can imitate "ajik" (not yet), but the researchers haven't confirmed the accomplishment.

Koshik is particularly good with vowels, with a rate of similarity of 67 percent, the researchers said. For consonants he scores only 21 percent.

Researchers said the clearest scientific evidence that Koshik is deliberately imitating human speech is that the sound frequency of his words matches that of his trainers.

Vocal imitation of other species has been found in mockingbirds, parrots and mynahs. But the paper says Koshik's case represents "a wholly novel method of vocal production" because he uses his trunk to reproduce human speech.

In 1983, zoo officials in Kazakhstan reportedly claimed that a teenage elephant named Batyr could reproduce Russian to utter 20 phrases, including "Batyr is good." But there was no scientific study on the claim.

Researchers believe Koshik learned to reproduce words out of a desire to bond with his trainers after he was separated from two other elephants at age 5.

Koshik emerged as a star among animal enthusiasts and children in South Korea after Everland Zoo claimed in 2006 that he could imitate words, two years after his trainers noticed the phenomenon. His growing reputation prompted Austrian biologist Angela Stoeger-Horwath and German biophysicist Daniel Mietchen to study him in 2010, zoo officials said.

Oh Suk-hun, a South Korean veterinarian who co-authored the research paper with Stoeger-Horwath and Mietchen, said the elephant apparently started imitating human speech to win the trust of his trainers.

In April, a children's science book called "Joa Joa, Speaking Elephant" was published. The cover photo showed Koshik opening his mouth wide while raising a trunk over his trainer's head.

Researchers said Koshik was trained to obey several commands and "exposed to human speech intensively" by trainers, veterinarians and zoo visitors.

Shin Nam-sik, a veterinary professor at Seoul National University who has seen Koshik, agreed with researchers' finding that the elephant was able to mimic human speech.

"In Koshik's case, the level of intimacy between him and his trainer was the key factor that made the elephant want to sound like a human," Shin said.

Kim Jong-gab, Koshik's chief trainer, said the elephant was timid for a male when he first came to Everland Zoo, so trainers often slept in the same area with him. Kim thinks that contact helped Koshik feel closer to humans.

Kim said he has another phrase he wants to teach Koshik: "Saranghae," or "I love you."

Science & Technology

How Apple's iPad Mini compares with rivals

The iPad Mini is just one of several tablets of its size. Here's a look at how the Mini compares with other tablets with comparable screens.

APPLE INC.'S IPAD MINI

■ Price: $329 for base model with Wi-Fi only and 16 gigabytes of storage, $429 with 32 GB, $529 with 64 GB. Add $130 for versions with cellular capability.
■ Screen size: 7.9 inches diagonally
■ Screen resolution: 1024 by 768 pixels
■ Weight: 0.68 pound (0.69 pound for cellular versions)
■ Cameras: 5-megapixel camera on back and a low-resolution camera on front, for videoconferencing
■ Battery life: 10 hours
■ Operating system: Apple's iOS

PROS: Unmatched access to third-party applications, high-quality Apple software and the iTunes store. High-resolution screen. Available with access to fast 4G wireless broadband networks, starting at $459. Larger-screen version available.

CONS: Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards.

BARNES & NOBLE INC.'S NOOK HD

■ Price: $199 with 8 gigabytes of storage, $229 with 16 GB
■ Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
■ - Screen resolution: 1440 by 900 pixels
■ Weight: 0.69 pound
■ Cameras: None
■ Battery life: Up to 10.5 hours of reading and up to 9 hours of video
■ Operating system: Modified version of Google's Android

PROS: Expandable with microSD card. High-definition screen. Larger-screen version available.

CONS: Selection of third-party applications is small. Lacks cameras and option for cellular broadband.

AMAZON.COM INC.'S KINDLE FIRE HD

■ Price: $199 with 16 gigabytes of storage, $249 with 32 GB
■ Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
■ Screen resolution: 1280 by 800 pixels
■ Weight: 0.87 pound.
■ Cameras: Front-facing camera.
■ Battery life: 11 hours.
■ Operating system: Modified version of Google's Android

AP

Employees hold a new full size Apple iPad 4th generation, left, next to new Apple iPad mini at the Apple store on Michigan Ave. Friday, Nov. 2, 2012 in Chicago.

PROS: Cheap and portable. Convenient access to Amazon store. High-definition screen. Dolby audio. Larger-screen version coming Nov. 20, including option for cellular broadband.

CONS: Small selection of third-party applications available from Amazon. No rear camera for taking video and photos. Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards.

AMAZON.COM INC.'S REGULAR KINDLE FIRE:

■ Price: $159 with 8 gigabytes of storage
■ Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
■ Screen resolution: 1024 by 600 pixels
■ Weight: 0.88 pounds
■ Cameras: none
■ Battery life: 8.5 hours.
■ Operating system: Modified version of Google's Android

PROS: Cheap and portable. Convenient access to Amazon store.

CONS: No-frills tablet lacks camera and microphone. Small selection of third-party applications available from Amazon. Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards. No option for cellular wireless broadband.

GOOGLE INC.'S NEXUS 7

■ Price: $199 with 16 gigabytes of storage, $249 with 32 GB. Add $50 for 32 GB model with cellular capability (available Nov. 13).
■ Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
■ Screen resolution: 1280 x 800 pixels
■ Weight: 0.75 pounds
■ Cameras: Front-facing, 1.2 megapixel camera
■ Battery life: 8 hours
■ Operating system: Google's Android

PROS: Access to a variety of games, utilities and other software for Android devices, though not as extensive as apps available for iPad. Option for cellular wireless broadband.

CONS: Integrates with Google Play store, which is still new and isn't as robust as Apple or Amazon's stores. Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards.

Science Matters

Why hermit crabs party

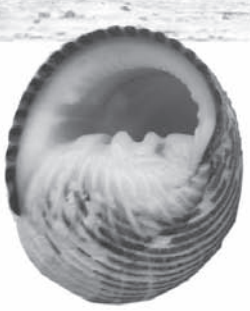
A hermit crab joins a social group for a specific purpose – to kick another crab out of its shell and move into a larger home.

Hermit crab gathering

1 Three or more crabs congregate and form a line, smallest to largest, each holding onto the crab in front of it

2 Once a crab is wrenched from its shell, free-for-all begins; all crabs try to displace another to get a larger shell

3 Last crab is left unprotected



Newly empty snail shell (above) and a shell that has been remodeled by a hermit crab

© 2012 MCT

Source: Mark Laidre of the University of California, Berkeley
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas

77 Kimbell museum artworks are just a Google away

By GAILE ROBINSON
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

FORT WORTH, Texas—The Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, on Thursday announced its alliance with the Google Art Project.

This specialized Google effort brings artworks in far-flung museums directly to users' computer screens. Google has recorded 77 of the most famous Kimbell objects, including Michelangelo's first known painting, The Torment of Saint Anthony, and put them on the Art Project website, www.googleartproject.com/collection/kimbell-art-museum.

The Kimbell museum is known for its relatively small but very high quality collection of artworks.

"Google's commitment to making art freely accessible to all audiences, both locally and internationally, is shared by the Kimbell Art Museum," said Kimbell director Eric M. Lee in a prepared statement. "I have enjoyed viewing the celebrated works from the Kimbell's permanent collection alongside those from some of the world's most prestigious institutions."

Users can find a number of ways to tarry at the site. They can select an artwork and focus on a small area, and then enlarge it to a point that allows scrutiny of a degree not allowed by museum guards. The lovely face of May Sartoris, by Frederic Leighton, or the jewelry on the courtesan in La Tour's Cheat With the Ace of Clubs can fill your computer screen, making you wish for an even larger monitor.

Without a touch screen, stick with Windows 7

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I recently had to replace my nine-year-old Windows XP computer, and am having trouble adapting to Windows 7.

What are the advantages, if any, for me to upgrade to Windows 8, which I've read has touch-screen capability and works with other equipment besides desktop computers? Since I don't have a touch screen, I'm wondering if there is any point in upgrading.—Peter Robinson, Chaska, Minn.

ANSWER: Different versions of Windows 8 are being offered on PCs, tablet computers and smartphones. But in every case the new operating system is primarily aimed at people who are using touch-sensitive screens.

So unless you're planning to buy a touch-screen device in connection with upgrading to Windows 8, you're probably better off continuing to use Windows 7. By most accounts, using the touch-screen-oriented Windows 8 with a mouse and keyboard is more difficult than using previous Windows versions with a mouse and keyboard.

In addition, if you find the changes in Windows 7 to be challenging, I suspect you won't enjoy the more radical changes embodied in Windows 8 (i.e. much different start screen.)

I'm not saying you should never upgrade to Windows 8; just let Microsoft deal with some of these usability issues first.

■■■

Q: I disagree with your warning to never click the unsubscribe link to put a stop to spam emails. Totally inundated with spam, I began unsubscribing and cut my spam down from more than 50 a day to one or two.

Some spam senders were more difficult to shake than others. I threatened a nonexistent Florida corporation that I would go to their state attorney general's office, but never heard from them again. I gave a dental company a taste of their own medicine until they finally stopped sending me email. Others just took me off their lists pronto. It has been well worth the effort.—Deborah Gray Mitchell, North Miami

A: Your strategy will work with legitimate companies and with spammers who can be located and threatened with legal action.

Unfortunately, most spam producers are neither legitimate nor traceable. When you respond to their emails, you confirm that yours is a working email address, and therefore fair game.

At the same time, you've essentially challenged some spammers to a duel, a risky business because they know your email address. Make sure you have a strong email password to prevent tampering.

As a result, I can't recommend your approach to others.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Life & Style

With 'Skyfall,' Craig puts his stamp on Bond

By JAKE COYLE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—If you just looked at the cast and crew of "Skyfall," you could easily confuse the assembled talent for a prestige costume drama. Director Sam Mendes, actors Judi Dench, Javier Bardem and Ralph Fiennes, and cinematographer Roger Deakins might just as easily be mounting a Shakespeare adaptation.

But "Skyfall" is, of course, a James Bond film, and not only that, it's the 23rd installment in a blockbuster franchise marking its 50th anniversary with only slightly less fanfare than the Queen's Jubilee. "Skyfall" is a touch more high-minded than those previous 22 films, but it's also arguably the best crafted movie in Bond history.

Those involved in the 007 empire overwhelmingly credit the higher trajectory for Bond to one man: Daniel Craig.

"Daniel was like, 'Everyone said yes! Look at this incredible cast!'" says Mendes. "I'm like, 'Mate, it's because of you.'"

Now in his third film as 007, "Skyfall" is Craig's most emphatic statement yet on how he'll define his stewardship of the beloved British spy. What's clearest on "Skyfall" is that Craig has taken full ownership of Bond, not only filling out a tux, but molding the entire production.

"That was an ambition of mine," says Craig. "They give us a lot of money to make these films. If we can spend the money in the right way—it's not just me, it's the collective thinking but I'm very much behind it—if we can spend the money in the right way and on the right people, then we're going to create something that's very special."

The result is the best-reviewed Bond film yet, one that's already made a whopping $287 million in its first 10 days of international release. "Skyfall" is the culmination of The Daniel Craig Years, a chapter in Bond history that's proving a resounding success.

Craig's first Bond film, 2006's "Casino Royale," was a visceral introduction to his version of 007. Less successful was 2008's "Quantum of Solace," which was marred by script problems partly caused by the writer's strike. The film's heavy somberness disappointed many and fueled the correction in tone on "Skyfall."

After the postmodern deconstruction of "Quantum," ''Skyfall" puts Bond back together, restoring many familiar elements, albeit with certain twists. Ben Whishaw inherits the role of Q, Naomie Harris settles in as Moneypenny and Fiennes comes aboard as the new head of MI6. Bardem plays a flamboyant, effete former MI6 agent whose cyber destruction is motivated by a past with M, the role Judi Dench has memorably inhabited for seven films.

AP

From left, British film director Sam Mendes, British actor Daniel Craig, French actress Berenice Marlohe and Spanish actor Javier Bardem pose for photographers during a photo call session for the presentation of Skyfall in Paris, Thursday Oct. 25, 2012.

Overall, "Skyfall" is set in a more realistic world—particularly situated in London—where MI6's activities are answerable to government and where the threat of terrorism has firmly displaced Cold War fears as the dominant concern.

It was Craig who, on a sudden instinct over conversation at a party, asked Mendes—better known for his stage direction and dramas like "American Beauty" and "Revolutionary Road" than action movies—if he wanted to direct. The two had previously worked together on 2002's "Road to Perdition," before Craig's stardom swelled.

"It mattered that it came from him," says Mendes. "I don't think I would have done it without Dan. It's much easier going to Javier or Ralph knowing they're already into the franchise because of Daniel. He's made it cool in a different way."

Craig also approached Bardem, a selective actor whose performance in "Skyfall" is already being considered among the best Bond villains.

"I asked him as well," Craig confesses sheepishly. "Overstretching my job description. You're an actor! Stick to f------ acting! You can't go hiring people."

But producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, who years ago inherited control of the franchise from their father Albert "Cubby" Broccoli, have been quite content with Craig's initiative. The 44-year-old actor is signed for two more Bond films, but Broccoli would have it be longer.

"We're not going to let him get away," says Broccoli. "We want him to keep making these films as long as he's willing."

Ang Lee says 'Life of Pi' more than art house film

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Oscar-winning director Ang Lee said he worked hard during the four of shooting on "Life of Pi" to give the $100 million art house film appeal for general audiences.

Lee

The movie based on Yann Martel's imaginative book stars Indian Suraj Sharma, who plays a boy who drifts on the open sea with a Bengal tiger and a hyena after a ship carrying the rest of his family sinks.

"As an art house film, you can explore the philosophical issues," Lee said at a news conference Wednesday. "But for a popular film, we also need to make the audience feel touched, and that was the difficult part."

Lee said initial reaction to the film had been positive, leaving him to conclude that his "risky experiment" would be a success.

A major problem in the filming, Lee said, was coping with animals on a roiling sea—a problem Lee solved by filming in 3D.

"As a new technology, 3D gives the film additional appeal," he said.

Much of the film was shot in Taiwan, Lee's home. He said that one of the key settings—a large water tank built at a studio in the central city of Taichung—allowed the 150-strong foreign crew to use its imagination freely and not be restrained by traditional Hollywood production values.

"I was relieved that they enjoyed their work in Taiwan. ... We couldn't have made the film if it were not here because of all the help we received," Lee said.

The film is scheduled to premiere in Taiwan and the United States on Nov. 21.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Century Tours, Saipan

Opening Date: November 6, 2012
Closing Date: November 13, 2012
Position: Operations Clerk (3)
Salary: $5.55 per hour

Duties: Performs all and/or any combination of following clerical duties requiring knowledge of systems or procedures: operates office machines, such as desktop computers, laptops, typewriter, adding, calculating, and duplicating machines; enters room bookings and room report for bookings into computer and forwards the information to Shanghai office via email and telephone; confirms and reconfirms hotel bookings with Shanghai office; inform Tour Guides of guests bus number assignments; prepare correspondence, bills, statements, receipts, or other documents, copying information from one record to another; photocopies documents, using photocopier; answers correspondence and emails, and prepares mail and email to Shanghai office; obtains travel and hotel accommodations for guests; prepares tour schedules and itineraries, and compiles reports of transactions; obtains confirmation of travel and lodging space and rate information; prepares guests tour booklet, copy of tour itinerary, written lodging confirmations and tour suggestions. answers guests and Shanghai office inquiries concerning tour routes, sightseeing schedules, fares and fees, and accommodations; prepare activity forms for Tour Guides; prepare key envelopes for incoming guests; sorts and files records; copies data and compiles records and reports; finalize guests name list to hotels; make bus reservations; Answers telephone, conveys messages, and runs errands; reply to Shanghai office emails, and perform other related duties assigned or as required.

Position Requirements: High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 2 years work experience in tour operation, sales or service related experience; must be able to speak, read, and understand Mandarin; excellent communication, organizational, and sales skills preferred; must valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Application: Applications may be obtained from the Front Office of Century Tours, located at the Kanoa Resort, Saipan, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan.

KANOA RESORT SAIPAN
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions :

Position (1) SOUS CHEF
Duties: Supervises and coordinates activities of COOKS and other workers engaged in preparing and cooking stuff. Observes workers engaged in preparing, portioning and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing and sizes of portions are prescribed. Gives instructions to cooking personnel in fine points of cooking. Cooks and carves meats and prepare dishes, such as sauces, during rush periods and for banquet and other social functions. Assumes responsibility for kitchen in absence of Executive Chef.

Qualifications: Ability to direct and participate in the preparation and cooking of food. Must be able to work variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends. Five (5) years work experience as a Sous Chef is required and preferably in the hospitality industry.

Position (1) GUEST SERVICE AGENT
Duties: Greets, registers and assigns rooms to guest. Issues room key and escort instructions to Bellhop/Bellman. Date stamps, sorts and racks incoming mail and messages. Transmit and receives messages, using telephone or telephone switchboard. Answers inquiries pertaining to hotel services, registrations of guests, and shopping, dinning, entertainment and travel directions. Keeps records of room availability and guests accounts manually or using computer. Computes bills, collects payment and make changes for guest. Makes and confirms reservations. May post charges, such as room, food, liquor or telephone to ledger, manually or using computer. May make restaurant, transportation or entertainment reservation and arrange for tours. May deposit guests valuables in hotel safe or safe deposit box. Responsible in providing guest fast, friendly and efficient service.

Qualifications: Must have knowledge in Microsoft Office Applications and Fidelio System. Must have outstanding ability to perform several tasks at once. Must be able to work flexible schedule including weekends, nights and holidays. Must have strong customer service and interpersonal skills. Frequent standing and walking on the job is required. Must have at least 2 years work experience as guest service and/or reservation agent. Must be of high school graduate or equivalent. Must have knowledge in foreign language and be able to speak, read and write in Japanese language or in Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than November 10, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Skyfall

Friday		4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	10:00
Monday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Cast: Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Javier Bardem
Genre: Spy film, Action • Rated PG13

Synopsis

James Bond returns for another entry in the secret-agent franchise with Sam Mendes at the helm and Daniel Craig back for the twenty-third official Bond film. Neal Purvis, Robert Wade and John Logan provide the script.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Wreck-It Ralph 3D

Friday			7:05	9:35
Saturday & Sunday	1:05		7:05	9:35
Monday	1:05		7:05	
Tuesday thru Thursday			7:05	

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

An 8-bit video-game character attempts to shed his bad-guy image by escaping into a popular first-person shooter, but inadvertently wreaks havoc in the video-game universe by freeing a digital villain who can only be contained with the help of a most unlikely ally in this colorful animated adventure. Wreck-It Ralph (voice of John C. Reilly) is the arch nemesis of Fix-It Felix (voice of Jack McBrayer), one of the most beloved video-game icons of all time. In a noble bid to prove he is more than the sum of his programming, Ralph sneaks from his cozy retro home into a highly advanced combat game featuring battle-hardened soldier Sergeant Calhoun (voice of Jane Lynch), and strives to prove his bravery by winning a medal. In the process, however, Ralph accidentally frees the greatest threat the video-game world has ever seen.

Wreck-It Ralph 2D

Friday		4:05		
Saturday & Sunday		4:05		
Monday		4:05		
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:05		

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Here Comes The Boom

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday & Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Monday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Cast: Kevin James, Henry Winkler, Salma Hayek
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG

Silent Hill: Revelation 3D

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Monday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Cast: Adelaide Clemens, Carrie-Anne Moss
Genre: Horror • Rated R

A Secret Affair

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:40
Saturday & Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:40
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Anne Curtis, Derek Ramsay, Andi Eigenmann
Genre: Romance, Drama • Rated PG 13

Pitch Perfect

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:55
Saturday & Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:55
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Sunday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Cast: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Ben Platt
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG13

Hotel Transylvania 3D

Friday			7:25	9:50
Saturday & Sunday	1:25		7:25	9:50
Monday	1:25		7:25	
Tuesday thru Thursday			7:25	

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Hotel Transylvania 2D

Friday		4:25		
Saturday & Sunday		4:25		
Monday		4:25		
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:25		

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

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ABC's Diane Sawyer spurs jokes from Twitterverse

NEW YORK (AP)—Diane Sawyer's Election Night performance left some viewers asking if she had begun celebrating Tuesday's election a bit early.

Co-anchoring ABC News' coverage, the veteran journalist struck a different manner from her practiced, straight-news-delivering style.

Sawyer spoke more slowly than usual while seeming to prop herself on outstretched arms at the anchor desk she shared with George Stephanopoulos.

"OK," she said at one point around 10 p.m. EST, "I wanna—can we have our music, because this is another big one here? Minnesota, we're ready to project Minnesota, rrright now. ... Well, tonight we know that President Barack has won Minnesota," she rambled on, stumbling over the president's name.

Sawyer

Maybe Sawyer was just weary from the recent torrent of news.

In any case, the Twitterverse took quick notice and began cracking wise.

Her name was soon trending with unflattering posts, while a new Twitter handle, Drunk Diane Sawyer, collected hundreds of followers.

"A bit tipsy," ''hammered" or "on pain killers, muscle relaxers, benzos or some combination" were among the jeering explanations. Another likened it to an episode of HBO's drama "The Newsroom," where Will McAvoy, the fictitious anchorman, had eaten a couple of pot brownies before unexpectedly being summoned to his anchor desk to report a news story.

Some tweeters joked that a more fun-loving Sawyer was a ploy by ABC to boost viewership. Several Twitter followers said they were drawn to the network by word that Sawyer was behaving, by one description, "a bit wacky."

"Bad night for Romney," one tweeter summed up. "Worse night for Diane Sawyer?"

ABC had no comment Wednesday, while Sawyer seemed to acknowledge the reaction from the Twittersphere in her own tweeted message: "Read your tweets the good, bad, and the funny. See you on ABCWorldNews."

British woman, 79, becomes martial-arts action hero

By DAWN C. CHMIELEWSKI
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Kay D'Arcy didn't expect what Hollywood had in store for her.

At an age when others have been relegated to playing invalids and dowagers, D'Arcy will appear as Agent 88, an assassin who keeps the deadly tools of her trade tucked into her hair bun. The octogenarian avenger dispenses evildoers with acrobatic moves that would impress Jackie Chan.

In the opening episode of the Web series "Agent 88," D'Arcy demonstrates her martial arts skills in an encounter with thugs surrounding the bloodied body of their victim.

"Get lost," one villain tells her, and knocks her to the ground.

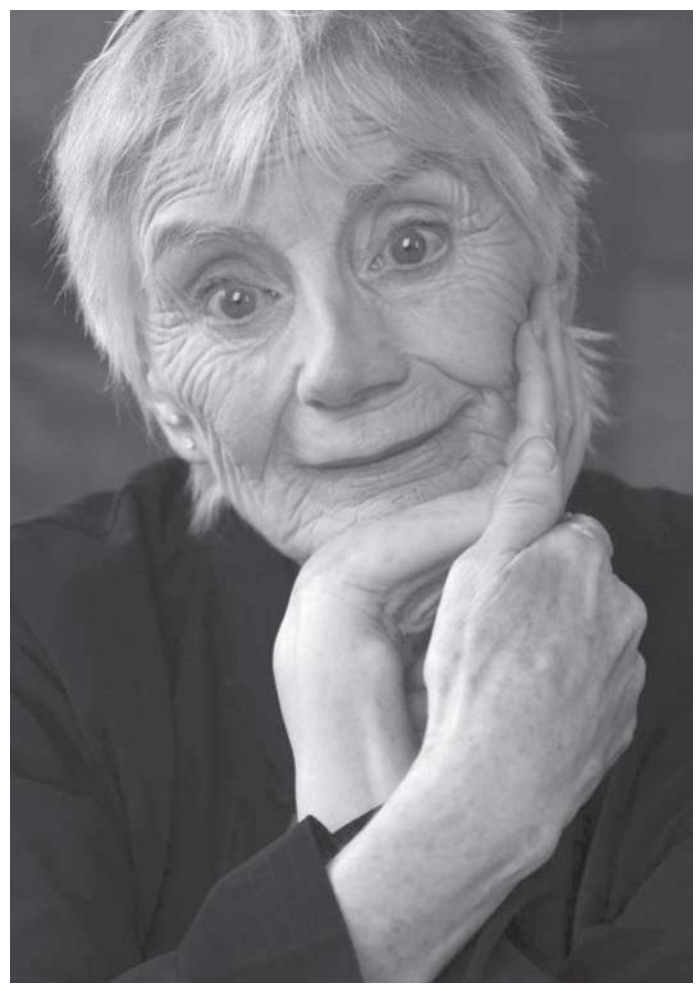
"I really wish you hadn't done that," she says, and springs into action.

With lethal efficiency, she neutralizes them all—delivering round-house kicks that send one crashing to the ground, pulling daggers from her bun and hurling them at another assailant, and twirling Kali fighting sticks to batter two others.

"Kay couldn't think of harming a fly. She's never thought, in her whole life, about hitting someone with the intent of hurting them," said Digger T. Mesch, the creator of the series. "Somehow ... she got on that set and she looked like a killer."

"Agent 88" is one of thousands of quirky creative projects to find life outside the conventional studio system. Mesch funded this genre-bending action series through Kickstarter, one of several fundraising platforms used to finance independent films, plays, music and video games. He raised a six-figure sum in a month, illustrating the power of crowd funding to help artists bypass traditional Hollywood gatekeepers.

The role gives D'Arcy, a retired nurse and midwife, the big break she has been working toward since leaving England for Los Angeles in 2002—at the age of 69, and over the objections of her family.


LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT
Kay D'Arcy, pictured Oct. 11, 2012, in Hollywood, California, spent decades as a nurse, midwife and mother before jumping into Hollywood. Now she stars as an acrobatic assassin in the Web series 'Agent 88,' doing many of her own stunts.

D'Arcy, now 79, said she was intrigued by the strength and humanity of the character.

"She's this dippy, absent-minded woman who's really quite a child inside," said the actress with gray spiked hair and crystal blue eyes. "This little inoffensive woman, who's slightly lala, ends up becoming a formidable assassin."

Last April, Mesch saw a YouTube video of an elderly woman who foiled a jewelry store heist by beating a gang of robbers with her handbag. The 2011 true-crime video made the anonymous pensioner in Northampton, England, a local folk hero—and served as the inspiration for "Agent 88."

D'Arcy had been studying tai chi for years when her manager learned of a casting opportunity for a "fit" older actress. D'Arcy welcomed the departure from roles typically offered performers her age, such as her recent appearance on the CBS television series "Criminal Minds," in which she portrayed a "decrepit, haggard, dying old woman."

"I said, 'Oh, gosh, that sounds really interesting,' as I'm not dying in bed or having a stroke or being dressed for the mortuary," D'Arcy said.

She donned martial arts attire to meet with Mesch and series executive producer Jan Utstein-O'Neill. The actress nailed the audition when she rose fluidly from a sitting position and began demonstrating tai chi movements—and won the role without reading a single line of dialogue.

"What impressed us is she could go from being really frail, and looking like she could break, to a totally empowered woman," Utstein-O'Neill said. "She did it right in front of us and blew us away."

To prepare for her portrayal of Agent 88, D'Arcy studied Filipino stick fighting and hand-to-hand combat with Australian martial arts expert Nino Pilla. The training, and a daily regimen of martial arts exercises, enabled her to do many of her own stunts.

D'Arcy found that the physicality was not the role's greatest challenge.

"The hardest thing was to hit," D'Arcy said. "It's quite hard if you've been schooled all your life not to."

Despite its dramatic footage, "Agent 88" struggled to reach its fundraising goal.

"It looked pretty grim in the beginning and the middle—we had not raised nearly enough money," Mesch said.

To finance a project through Kickstarter, content creators like Mesch set a fundraising goal and deadline. It's an all-or-nothing proposition: If they fail to raise the desired sum by the appointed time, the project is not funded.

Donors, who may commit as little as $1 and as much as $10,000, are attracted by the quality of the project and by premium gifts, producer credits or tickets to private screenings. Those who donate to projects do not reap any monetary benefits. Since Kickstarter launched in 2009, more than $340 million has been pledged to fund about 31,000 projects.

A last-minute social media initiative led by one group of passionate fans—"Star Wars" devotees drawn in by former Chewbacca actor Peter Mayhew's recurring role in "Agent 88"—helped the project exceed its $88,000 goal. Mesch raised $104,701 in pledges, ranking "Agent 88" among Kickstarter's top 10 most successful Web series. The show's pilot episode is scheduled to appear online in January, and the series should launch next spring or summer.

DC Comics writer Jimmy Palmiotti was among those who pledged to support "Agent 88," in part because he loved its "wonderfully ridiculous" premise and the title character, whom he compared to a distaff Clint Eastwood: "I think when Dirty Harry himself is in his 80s, it's good to have a grandma out there for Dirty Harry to play with."

Insurance broker charged with defrauding Tom Hanks

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An insurance broker pleaded not guilty Wednesday to allegations he overcharged Tom Hanks, the former guitarist of The Police and others hundreds of thousands of dollars for insurance premiums.

Jerry B. Goldman, who was arrested at his Thousand Oaks home, was released from federal custody on a $25,000 bond posted by his wife, said Stephanie Yonekura-McCaffrey, executive assistant U.S. attorney.

A federal grand jury in Los Angeles indicted Goldman on fraud charges Oct. 30. A call to his public defender, Yasmin Cader, was not immediately returned.

Hanks

The indictment claims that between 1998 and last year, Goldman overcharged four victims including Hanks and Andy Summers, the former guitarist of The Police, more than $800,000 on insurance policies. He sent the premiums to the insurance companies and kept the overcharged amount, prosecutors claim.

When clients asked Goldman for copies of their insurance policies, he sent them altered copies that didn't disclose the true premium "in order to lull his clients into a false sense of security" and keep them from suing him or seeking criminal prosecution, the indictment charged.

Details weren't released, but the indictment says the term "insurance policies" in the document refers to coverage for everything from cars, property and fine art to flood, fire, earthquakes, worker's compensation and "personal employment practices liability."

Hanks and Summers were identified in the indictment as T.H. and A.S., but prosecutors confirmed their identities. The other alleged victims were identified only as M.W.H. and S.R.

Calls and emails seeking comment from representatives of Hanks and Summers were not immediately returned.

A trial date has been set for Dec. 18.

Mom of 'Modern Family' teen star accused of abuse

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The mother of "Modern Family" star Ariel Winter has temporarily lost custody of the actress amid claims she's been physically and emotionally abusive to the teenager, court records show.

The allegations are contained in a guardianship petition filed last month in Los Angeles by Winter's 34-year-old sister, Shanelle. A judge ordered the 14-year-old's mother, Chrisoula Workman, to stay away and have no contact with her daughter until a Nov. 20 hearing. Winter's sister, also a TV actress, was appointed as a temporary guardian but does not have access to Winter's earnings, according to the judge's order.

Winter, who started acting in films and TV shows at age 7, currently plays Alex Dunphy on the hit ABC comedy.

Winter's mother was accused in the filings of "ongoing physical abuse" described as slapping and hitting, as well as name-calling and personal insults. Reached by phone, Workman said she was in the process of hiring an attorney.

An independent attorney has been appointed to oversee Winter's interests in the case.

Attorneys handling the guardianship had sought to transfer control of the young star's earnings from an account her mother can access to a blocked account. A judge did not grant that request, but it may be renewed at a later date.

Winter has appeared in several TV series, including "ER" and "Phineas and Ferb," and movies such as "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang," ''Ice Age: The Meltdown" and "ParaNorman."

The filing was first reported by celebrity website TMZ.

AP

In this Sept. 24, 2012 file photo, Ariel Winter attends the World Premiere of "Batman: The Dark Knight Returns Part 1" at The Paley Center for Media, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Naomi Campbell hosts boyfriend's birthday in India

NEW DELHI (AP)—Naomi Campbell is pulling out all the stops to celebrate the birthday of her boyfriend, Russian billionaire Vladimir Doronin, in the palaces of western India. The supermodel's spokeswoman, Debi Zornes, says the celebration of Doronin's 50th birthday kicked off in the 15th century Mehrangarh Fort in the city of Jodhpur on Tuesday night. The festivities included fireworks, traditional music and dancing and an elaborate buffet meal. The setting for another party Wednesday evening was a former medieval palace, Umaid Bhawan, now run as a hotel. All 42 rooms at the palace hotel have been booked for Campbell's guests. No other details were immediately available.

Jermaine Jackson petitions to alter famous name

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Court records show Jermaine Jackson is looking to alter his famous last name to something a little brighter. The older brother of Michael Jackson filed a petition Tuesday to change his last name to Jacksun for "artistic reasons." Jackson's friend Steve Dennis says the singer isn't the first artist to change his name and says it's being done for the reasons stated in the court filing, but wouldn't elaborate. Jackson has been touring with his brothers in recent months and has been promoting his book about his superstar brother titled "You Are Not Alone." A hearing on Jackson's petition is scheduled for Feb. 22 in Los Angeles.

Bloody saga wins medical book prize

LONDON (AP)—The biography of a 17th-century scientist who mapped the mysteries of human blood has won the medical-themed Wellcome Trust Book Prize. Organizers announced Wednesday that British author Thomas Wright's "Circulation" had been awarded the $25,000 pound ($40,000) prize. The book is a biography of William Harvey, physician to King Charles I, and his quest to understand the workings of the heart and blood circulation. Funded by charity the Wellcome Trust, the prize aims to bridge the gap between literature and science and is open to fiction or nonfiction works with a health or medical theme. Journalist Mark Lawson, who chaired the judging panel, said Wright's book "combines scholarly science with such narrative excitement that it will be a great surprise if we do not eventually see 'Circulation: The Movie.'"

Lady Gaga donates $1M to Red Cross for Sandy

NEW YORK (AP)—Lady Gaga is donating $1 million to the Red Cross to aid those affected by Superstorm Sandy.

The New York-born singer posted on her blog Wednesday that she is pledging the money on behalf of her parents and sister. She also said she "would not be the woman or artist that I am today" if it weren't for places like the Lower Eastside, Harlem, the Bronx and Brooklyn.

She writes: "Thank you for helping me build my spirit. I will now help you rebuild yours."

Superstorm Sandy made landfall more than a week ago, killing many of its more than 100 victims in New York City and New Jersey and leaving millions without power.

Lady Gaga added that New York is a place full of "relentless ambition."

AP

In this Monday, Oct. 1, 2012 file photo, Lady Gaga arrives at the Versace atelier in Milan, Italy.

Daughter demands widowed dad spend his life alone

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My brother lost his wife, the love of his life, three years ago. He has three children. His oldest, a 25-year-old daughter, "Jenny," told him that "when you marry, it is for life." She has threatened that if he dates someone or sees anyone, she will be out of his life and he won't be able to see his future grandchildren. (Jenny is getting married next summer.)

My brother is very upset. He wants to settle this argument before she is married. He hasn't dated anyone, but feels she shouldn't be trying to control his life. Please help, Abby. I'll show Jenny your answer and hope it helps them.

SISTER KATY IN MAINE

DEAR SISTER KATY: I'm very sorry Jenny lost her mother, but her attitude is off base. At 25, it's time for her to grow up and stop making selfish, childish threats she will regret.

While I agree that marriage should be "for life," her parents' marriage DID last for life—the life of her mother. That she would begrudge her father continuing to live his life is cruel and wrong. If she cuts him out of her life, she will deprive her future children of a relationship with a loving grandparent, and that would be a shame.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a manners dilemma. I was raised in a home where "Yes, ma'am" and, "No, sir" were expected, and I have used that respectful form of address throughout my life. Yes, I grew up in the South.

Six months ago, my husband and I moved north with our two children for job relocation. My co-workers are giving me a hard time about my constant use of "ma'am" and "sir." They feel offended!

I have tried to respect their request not to say it to them. Some are my age, younger or older, but I'm used to saying it to EVERYONE, all the time. It simply rolls off my tongue.

I sense that upper management and my supervisor like being addressed that way. But what do you suggest I do with the rest of my co-workers?

OL'-FASHIONED IN OHIO

DEAR OL'-FASHIONED: I suggest you explain to your co-workers, as you have to me, that using this respectful form of address is a custom you were raised with. And because old habits are hard to break, that they please cut you some slack because you are trying to offend no one.

P.S. They appear to be clueless.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 15. A few nights ago a guy friend of mine asked me to "sext." I was furious, but played along with him and said "yes." Than I sent him a picture of an elderly woman in a bikini.

After that, I went off on him. I told him how wrong it was for him to ask me for that. No girl deserves to be treated that way. I haven't spoken to him since.

He texted a close friend of mine, telling her what happened and saying how much he regretted it and loved me. He said he cares for me, but that now there's no chance because I hate him.

He has sent me texts apologizing for what he did, but I have ignored them. Should I accept his apology? Or save my heart from being broken again?

DISAPPOINTED TEEN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DISAPPOINTED TEEN: Your guy friend made a mistake and has apologized. If you still have feelings for him, accept the apology and give him another chance. However, if he continues to ask you to do something that you feel is wrong, THAT will be the time to end the relationship.

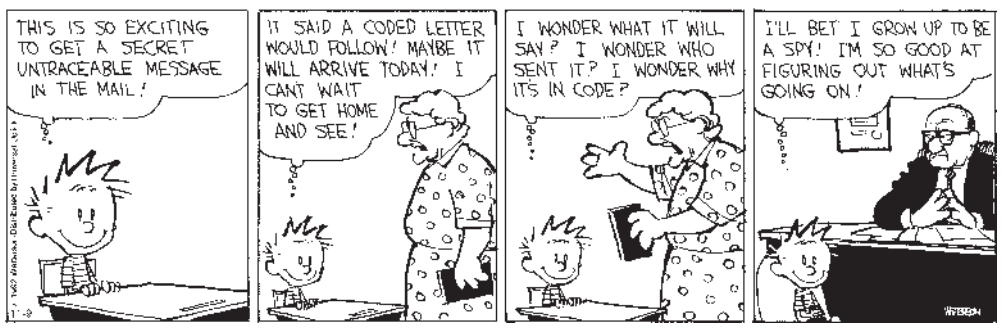
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

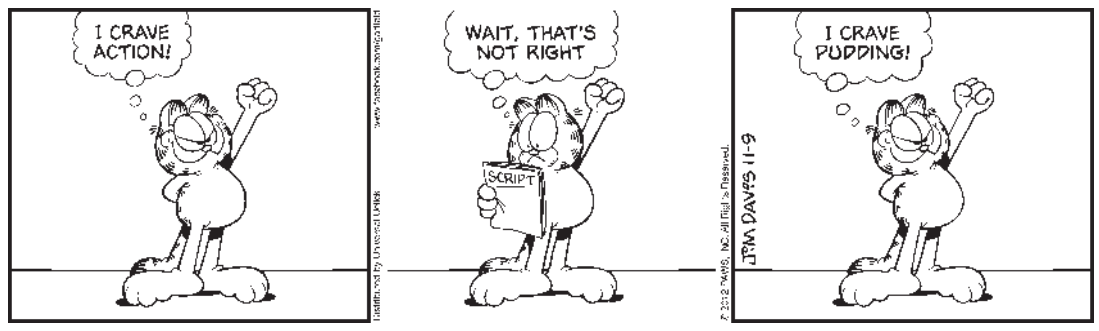
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THIS IS SO EXCITING TO GET A SECRET UNTRACEABLE MESSAGE IN THE MAIL!
IT SAID A CODED LETTER WOULD FOLLOW! MAYBE IT WILL ARRIVE TODAY! I CAN'T WAIT TO GET HOME AND SEE!
I WONDER WHAT IT WILL SAY? I WONDER WHO SENT IT? I WONDER WHY IT'S IN CODE?
I'LL BET I GROW UP TO BE A SPY! I'M SO GOOD AT FIGURING OUT WHAT'S GOING ON!

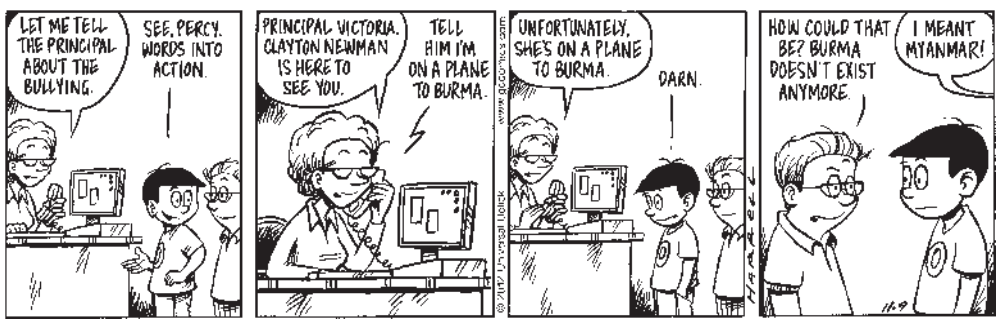
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



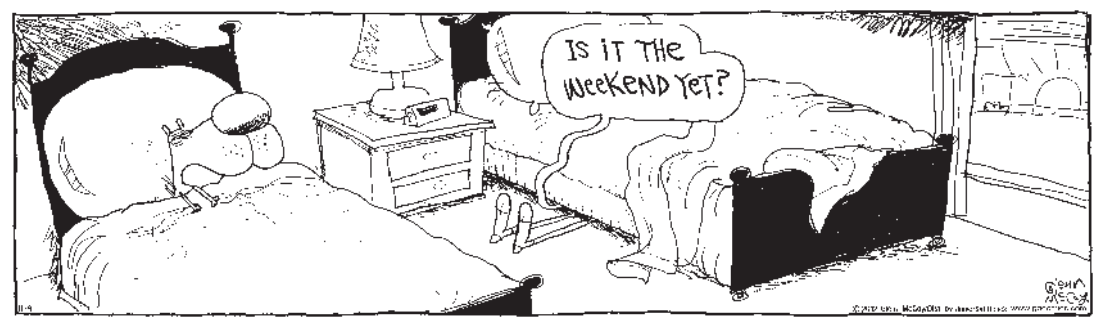
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LET ME TELL THE PRINCIPAL ABOUT THE BULLYING.
SEE, PERCY. WORDS INTO ACTION.
PRINCIPAL VICTORIA. CLAYTON NEWMAN IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
TELL HIM I'M ON A PLANE TO BURMA.
UNFORTUNATELY, SHE'S ON A PLANE TO BURMA.
DARN.
HOW COULD THAT BE? BURMA DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE.
I MEANT MYANMAR!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

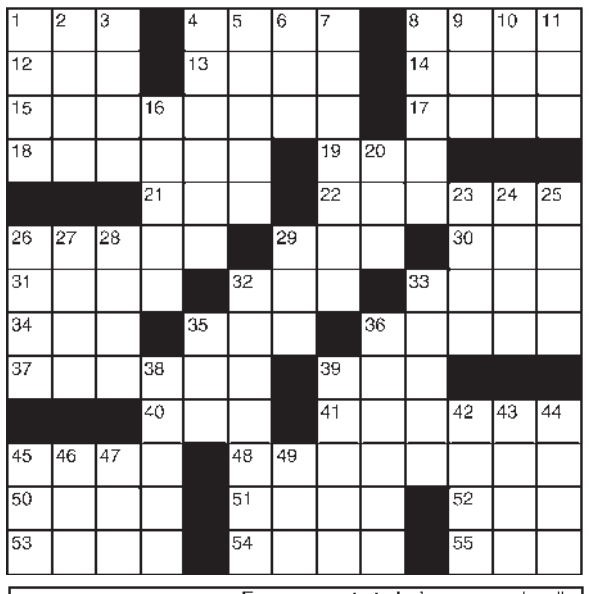
ACROSS
1 Media watchdog org.
4 Basin accessory
8 Jason's ship
12 Carte lead-in
13 Old woman's home?
14 Cat call
15 Capital of Uzbekistan
17 Elliptical
18 Involve
19 Plant bristle
21 Mischievous tyke
22 Capital of Rwanda
26 Prologue
29 Fast flier
30 Director Howard
31 Little lamb's owner
32 Prohibit
33 Ostentatious display
34 Santa — winds
35 Blunder
36 Point of view
37 Capital of Mozambique
39 Ostrich's cousin
40 Cal.'s ocean
41 Dutch exports
45 Shaving cream additive
48 Capital of Turkmenistan
50 Sunup
51 One-on-one battle
52 Wall climber
53 Newspaper pg.
54 Bizarre (Var.)
55 Gender

DOWN
1 Karma
2 Family
3 Group of actors
4 Inuit
5 Puppy
6 A billion years
7 Gotten back
8 In the thick of
9 Accelerate quickly
10 — long way
11 Hooter
16 Hirsute
20 Humor
23 Met melody
24 Forsaken
25 "Meet Me — Louis"
26 Mosque bigwig
27 "Peter Pan" pooch
28 Snare
29 Cookie holder
32 Rich fabric
33 "Be-Bop-—"
35 Greek vowel
36 With complacence
38 Knock over
39 Bygone anesthetic
42 Sacred Egyptian bird
43 Macadamize
44 Charon's river
45 Big bother
46 Once around the track
47 Have bills
49 Seek damages

Solution time: 25 mins.

T	H	R	U	■	O	V	U	M	■	S	A	P
A	E	O	N	■	D	I	K	E	■	M	B	A
C	R	A	S	H	D	I	E	T	■	A	L	I
H	O	M	E	R	S	■	■	R	I	S	E	R
■	■	■	A	S	■	B	R	O	T	H	■	■
G	I	F	T	■	L	E	I	■	S	H	O	P
O	I	L	■	■	A	G	O	■	■	I	R	E
D	I	A	L	■	K	I	T	■	S	T	E	W
■	■	S	E	V	E	N	■	D	O	■	■	■
T	A	H	O	E	■	■	P	O	W	E	R	S
H	I	M	■	T	R	A	S	H	H	E	A	P
A	D	O	■	C	O	N	S	■	A	L	G	A
W	E	B	■	H	E	A	T	■	T	S	A	R

Yesterday's answer 11-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nick Lachey, 39; Eric Dane, 40; Susan Tedeschi, 42; Lou Ferrigno, 61.

Happy Birthday: Size up whatever situation you face. You may feel compelled to make an impulsive move based on emotions, but this will lead to lingering side effects that stand in the way of your success. Your numbers are 5, 14, 18, 24, 30, 38, 49.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Emphasize what it is you want to accomplish. Talk about your plans, and figure out a way to stretch your cash to fit the budget you will need to push forward. Don't let negativity or unhappy peers hold you back. Focus on positive relationships. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Speak from the heart and share what you feel will work with regard to both personal and professional projects. Interacting with your peers will be key to finding solutions for any problem you face. Look for a unique way to help others. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't feel pressured or rushed to make a decision or take action. You need time to reflect on what has already transpired before you can move forward and make the right choice. Socializing with friends will ease your stress. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Plan an event with the people you enjoy spending time with the most. Getting together and sharing good times will help you build a stronger bond and give you a better understanding of the people you love. Short trips will be enlightening. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Impulsive action will be costly. Focus on the things you can do to make personal improvements. Prospects will develop by reuniting with someone you've worked with in the past. Let your charm guide you to bigger and better options. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Stay calm when dealing with a partner, children or anyone you live with. Emotions will escalate causing situations to get blown out of proportion. Do something creative that will help you improve your life. Avoid arguments and no-win situations. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Keep your plans simple but adventuresome. You'll gain plenty of experience if you get involved in activities that are new and exciting. Listen and observe how others respond to what you do and say. Leadership is within reach. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Follow through with promises, or you will face an emotional situation that is likely to put you in an awkward position at a social setting. An unusual source will lead to an interesting concept or endeavor you should pursue. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't stray too far off the beaten path. You will come up against opposition and argumentative people if you travel too far from home. Concentrate on family, your residence and making your life comfortable, not chaotic. Love is highlighted. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Good fortune can be yours. Check out your options and look for opportunities in your field. A change may not be what you choose, but the information you gain through research will help you present what you would like to see unfold. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't rely on others or on your intuition. Clarity will not be your strong point and conversations will lead you astray. Spend time at home, go over your personal papers or fix up your place to suit your current needs. Work on self-improvement. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take your time and refrain from jumping to conclusions or voicing your opinion before you have all the facts. Discipline must be implemented and the focus should be on making the most of your assets and taking care of your health. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are hasty, eager to accommodate and a progressive thinker.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					5		8	
	2			7			4	6
	5		9			3		
					7			9
	4						6	
1			8					
		9			1		7	
6	3			2			1	
	7		5					

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	7	2	9	3	1	4	8	5
5	8	3	7	6	4	2	1	9
1	9	4	8	2	5	3	7	6
2	1	5	3	7	9	6	4	8
8	6	7	4	5	2	1	9	3
3	4	9	6	1	8	5	2	7
7	3	1	2	9	6	8	5	4
9	5	8	1	4	3	7	6	2
4	2	6	5	8	7	9	3	1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/08

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

EARMUFF SEASON **Solution: 6 letters**

E	E	A	R	W	A	R	M	E	R	S	O	U	N	D
P	A	L	A	N	I	G	I	R	O	S	D	L	O	F
R	R	R	E	X	T	E	R	N	A	L	N	D	I	R
E	C	O	C	C	H	E	S	T	E	R	O	E	S	E
V	O	T	T	U	T	E	V	L	E	V	I	C	E	T
E	V	L	N	E	S	R	E	D	U	C	T	I	O	N
N	E	E	O	D	C	H	O	B	D	S	N	B	S	I
T	R	P	T	E	U	T	I	N	H	S	E	E	P	W
A	S	A	G	U	P	L	I	O	I	H	V	L	O	A
T	A	D	N	S	S	F	P	O	N	C	N	S	P	R
I	F	S	I	O	H	T	R	O	N	S	I	I	R	M
V	E	E	M	P	L	U	S	H	R	S	E	G	A	T
E	L	B	R	A	N	D	D	N	A	B	D	A	E	H
R	U	F	A	R	M	W	I	R	E	C	E	E	L	F
X	U	A	F	W	D	D	O	O	W	N	E	E	R	G

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Ages, Bilsom, Brand, Chester, Cups, Decibels, Ear Covers, Ear Cushions, Ear Pops, Ear Warmers, Electronic, External, Farmington, Farm Wire, Faux, Find, Fleece, Folds, Fur, Greenwood, Headband, Invention, Noise, North, Original, Pads, Peltor, Plush, Preventative, Protection, Reduction, Safe, Shop, Sound, Suede, Velvet, Warmth, Wear, Winter, Wrap

Yesterday's Answer: High-wire

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 3 is "Caboodle's Vol. 3" filled with the biggest new words in entertainment. To own, send $8.95 plus $4.95 U.S. handling per book to Universal Uclick, plus $3 postage to 1 Field book cover, $1.00 for each additional book. Send to: WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106. For credit card toll-free 1-800-542-2550. Order online at puzzles.com. Contains 45 puzzles, Publication Date: The 20th of Sept.

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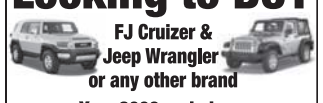

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Wade, James lift Heat past Nets, 103-73

MIAMI (AP)—In 25 seasons of Miami Heat basketball, the club had never won its first four home games of any season.

That is, until now.

And the Heat are making it look easy.

Dwyane Wade scored 22 points on 10 for 14 shooting, LeBron James finished two assists shy of a triple-double and the Heat clamped down defensively again to beat the Brooklyn Nets 103-73 on Wednesday night.

Miami scored 31 points off Brooklyn turnovers, and starting with the final minute of the first half, the Heat outscored the Nets 57-32.

"When we get stops, we're going to break open a lot of games because we can score," James said. "So that's the No. 1 key."

James had 20 points and 12 rebounds in only 30 minutes, and Rashard Lewis came off the bench to score 13 points on 6 for 9 shooting for the Heat (4-1). Miami—which plays its next six games on the road - has won its four home games by an average of 17.8 points.

Kris Humphries had a double-double by halftime, then was silent in the second half and finished with 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Nets (1-2). Deron Williams scored 14 for Brooklyn, which got 12 off the bench from MarShon Brooks.

"It was just an off-night because we had a lot of open looks," said Nets guard Joe Johnson, who finished 4 for 14 with nine points. "I know I did and I missed a few myself. Other than that it was just shots that we normally make that we didn't make tonight. Against a good team like Miami, you have to make them pay."

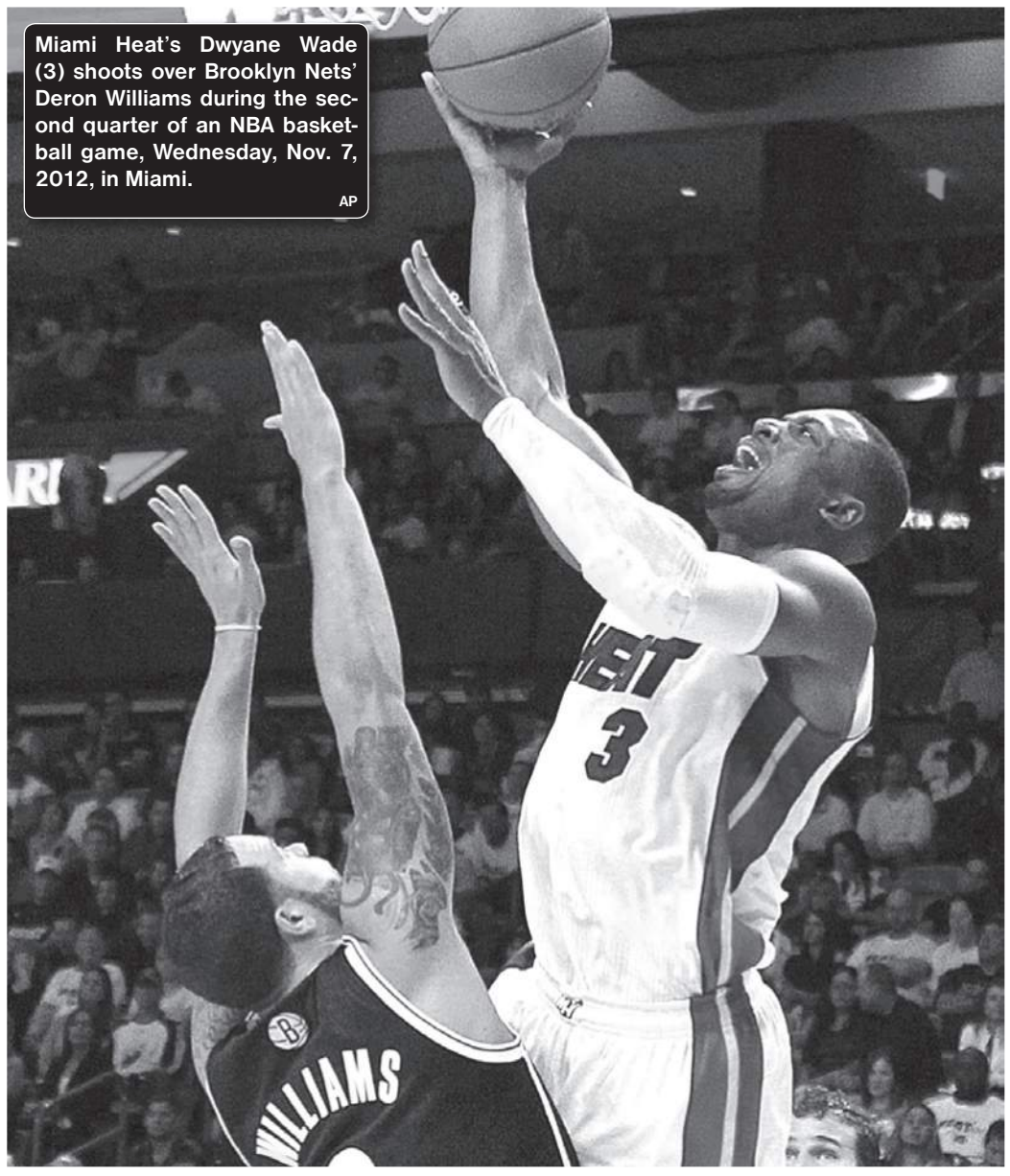
Miami started 3-0 at home in four other seasons, always falling in the fourth game. Not this time. The Nets held the lead four times in the opening quarter, but all by one point and lasting a total of 2:33.

Other than that, all Miami. The Heat started 3 for 12 from 3-point range, then made seven of their last 12, giving them 40 makes from beyond the arc in their last three games.

"They're tough when you're turning the ball over," Nets coach Avery Johnson said. "I thought there were times when we got our half-court defense set that we were decent. We got the ball out of LeBron's hands some, out of Wade's hands some, but then we didn't recognize their shooters and their shooters made shots tonight."

The Heat shot 52 percent, holding New Jersey to 38 percent. Miami finished with 25 assists and 12 turnovers; New Jersey finished with 12 assists and 19 turnovers.

"It was good to see another game, sub-40 percent," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Our guys were, for the most part, committed to try to make an impact on that side of the floor."



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (3) shoots over Brooklyn Nets' Deron Williams during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, in Miami. AP

Brooklyn didn't lose sight of Miami in the first half, still being within five with less than a minute remaining until the break, before the Heat got late scores from Wade and James to take a 50-41 edge into the locker room.

And as was the case against Phoenix (with a 23-6 run) on Monday, the Heat used the third quarter as the springboard.

Nuggets 93, Rockets 87

In Houston, Ty Lawson scored 21 points and Kenneth Faried had 16 points and 16 rebounds to help the Denver Nuggets to a 93-87 victory over the Houston Rockets on Wednesday night.

James Harden had a tough night for the Rockets and finished with a season-low 15 points on 5-for-15 shooting.

A dunk by Andre Iguodala put Denver up by six, before a pair of free throws by Jeremy Lin made it 91-87 with 1:21 remaining. Lin got knocked in the nose on the foul and was bleeding. He had to shoot the free throws with paper stuffed in his left nostril.

Faried blocked a layup attempt by Harden and Chandler Parsons missed a 3-pointer seconds later. Faried got the rebound on the miss and dunked it on the other end to secure the win.

Jazz 95, Lakers 86

In Salt Lake City, Al Jefferson scored 18 points and Randy Foye added 17 on five 3-pointers to lift Utah Jazz past the Los Angeles Lakers.

Mo Williams added 16 points on 8 of 13 shooting for the Grizzlies (2-3).

Kobe Bryant entered the game shooting nearly 60 percent but started 3 of 10 and finished 7 of 17 for 29 points as the Lakers fell to 1-4.

Dwight Howard added 19 points for the Lakers and Metta World Peace had 15.

The Jazz led by as many as 16 points early, but the Lakers were within five with 8:27 left before Foye hit three straight 3-pointers to give Utah a 79-68 lead with 6:40 remaining.

Suns 117, Bobcats 110

In Charlotte, Shannon Brown hit six 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and finished with 24 points to lead Phoenix.

Brown, who played briefly with the Bobcats before being traded to the Los Angeles Lakers along with Adam Morrison, helped break open an 87-all game early in the fourth quarter when he suddenly got hot.

Several of Brown's 3-pointers were contested with a hand in his face, but it hardly mattered.

Marcin Gortat had 23 points and 10 rebounds for the Suns. Michael Beasley added 21 points and 15 rebounds.

Brown's sharp shooting offset a terrific night for Charlotte's Byron Mullens, who hit six 3-pointers of his own and finished with 24 points and eight rebounds.

Clippers 106, Spurs 84

In Los Angeles, DeAndre Jordan and Blake Griffin each had double-digit points and rebounds while leading a dunkfest in Los Angeles' victory over the San Antonio Spurs, who lost for the first time this season.

Griffin had 22 points and 10 rebounds and Jordan had 20 points and 11 rebounds to lead six players who scored in double figures while helping the Clippers snap a two-game skid against the team that swept them out of the second round of the playoffs last season.

Danny Green scored 12 points and Tim Duncan added 10 for the Spurs, whose 4-0 start was the best in franchise history.

Jordan, Griffin and Chris Paul, who had 10 points and 12 assists, left the game for good with 4:47 remaining and the Clippers ahead by 25. They had just finished a raucous stretch of dunks off alley-oop passes during a 12-2 spurt.

Hawks 89, Pacers 86

In Atlanta, Kyle Korver scored eight straight points in a late 18-0 run as the Hawks rallied from 14 points down early in the fourth quarter.

Indiana led 83-69 before Atlanta started the comeback. Korver hit back-to-back 3-pointers and added another jumper, cutting the lead to 83-82.

Korver then missed another jumper but Josh Smith grabbed the rebound and passed to Jeff Teague, who hit a 3-pointer with 1:04 remaining to give Atlanta an 85-83 lead. Teague added another basket to cap the 18-0 run.

David West and George Hill each had 20 for the Pacers.

Timberwolves 90, Magic 75

In Minneapolis, Luke Ridnour had 19 points and five rebounds, and Greg Stiemsma got Minnesota's rout started with six straight points to end the third quarter.

Stiemsma finished with 12 points and five rebounds, and Derrick Williams added 14 points and six boards for the Timberwolves, who are 3-1 for the first time since 2001. They led an ugly game by three points early in the third period before going on a staggering 28-6 surge that blew open the game.

J.J. Redick had 16 points, but the Magic shot just 35 percent and turned the ball over 20 times to lose their second straight game. Arron Afflalo added 12 points for Orlando.

Celtics 100, Wizards 94, OT

In Boston, Brandon Bass scored five straight points in overtime, helping the Celtics win the back end of a home-and-home set with Washington.

Kevin Garnett led the Celtics with 20 points and 13 rebounds, Rajon Rondo had 18 points and 14 assists and reserve Jason Terry had 16 points. Bass finished with 11.

Bradley Beal, Kevin Seraphin and Martell Webster each scored 16 points for the Wizards (0-3).

Bass hit a tiebreaking free throw, making it 93-92, then scored on a twisting layup on the next possession. He added a breakaway dunk with 37.7 seconds left to help seal it.

Boston (2-2) beat the Wizards 89-86 in Washington on Saturday night.

Grizzlies 108, Bucks 90

In Milwaukee, Zach Randolph had 18 points and 13 rebounds, and Memphis shot 53 percent from the floor in a win over Milwaukee.

Rudy Gay added 17 points and Marreese Speights contributed 16 off the bench to help the Grizzlies win their third straight after a season-opening loss.

Milwaukee, which was looking to start 3-0 for the first time since the 2005-06 season, shot just 38.5 percent from the field. Brandon Jennings led the Bucks with 19 points, but he was only 6 of 20 from the field. Monta Ellis added 15 points on 5-of-18 shooting.

Memphis withstood a third-quarter rally and pulled away in the fourth.

76ers 77, Hornets 62

In New Orleans, Jrue Holiday had 14 points and 12 assists, and Philadelphia held New Orleans to its lowest point total ever.

Evan Turner also scored 14, and Thaddeus Young and Lavoy Allen each added 12 points for the Sixers, who dominated the second half defensively. The Hornets committed 14 of their 24 turnovers after halftime and scored only 25 points during the final two quarters. Young also grabbed 10 rebounds.

Al-Farouq Aminu was the only Hornets player to score in double figures with 10 points to go with 16 rebounds.

The Hornets, who lost for the first time in three games, played without first-round draft choices Anthony Davis and Austin Rivers. Davis was not cleared to return from a recent concussion and Rivers had a sprained finger.

Mavericks 109, Raptors 104

In Dallas, O.J. Mayo and Chris Kaman each scored 22 points as the short-handed Mavericks won their third straight.

The Mavericks, who jumped out to a 16-point lead early in the second quarter, improved to 4-1 for the first time since 2007-08.

Dallas played without forwards Shawn Marion and Elton Brand. Marion was sidelined with a sprained left knee ligament, and Brand left the team for the birth of his second child.

Andrea Bargnani scored 25 points for Toronto and DeMar DeRozan added 24. Raptors starting point guard Kyle Lowry didn't play after he sprained his right ankle Tuesday night against Oklahoma City.

Warriors 106, Cavaliers 96

In Oakland, Calif., David Lee played through an illness to finish with 22 points, 14 rebounds and six assists, and Golden State outlasted the undermanned Cleveland Cavaliers.

Stephen Curry scored 21 points to go with six assists, and reserve Carl Landry added 19 points and nine rebounds to help the Warriors take a 17-point lead in the second quarter, go down a basket in the third and cruise to victory in the fourth.

Kyrie Irving had 28 points and seven assists for the Cavaliers, who played without two of their top big men. First-round pick Tyler Zeller was sent back to Cleveland for further concussion tests and Anderson Varejao sat out with soreness in his bruised right knee.

Kings 105, Pistons 103

In Sacramento, Calif., DeMarcus Cousins had 21 points and 11 rebounds to help Sacramento hold off the winless Detroit Pistons.

The Kings took the lead for good early in the second quarter and won their second consecutive game. Strong bench play and the inside game of Cousins proved pivotal in the fourth when the lead was cut to one basket several times.

Greg Monroe had his first triple-double with 21 points, 12 rebounds and a career-high 10 assists for the Pistons, who fell to 0-5. Brandon Knight made five 3-pointers and scored 21 points.

Monroe became the first NBA player this season to record a triple-double.

Luck among players shaving head to support Pagano

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Andrew Luck has joined the shaved squad, too.

Nearly three dozen players on the Indianapolis Colts have shaved their heads in a show of support for head coach Chuck Pagano, who is undergoing treatment for a form of leukemia.

Luck became a new member of the no-hair club Wednesday morning. Players and coaches were not available for comment because they were headed to Jacksonville, but a team spokesman confirmed that Luck will indeed look quite different when he takes off his helmet Thursday night.

"Buzzed heads and orange locks in honor of Chuck," team owner Jim Irsay tweeted. He also included a link to a photo showing many of the players who had gotten buzzed.

Indianapolis (5-3) has gone to great lengths to give their ailing coach encouragement.

Reggie Wayne wore orange gloves against Green Bay, the ribbon color used to raise awareness for leukemia. Nameplates above player's lockers at the team complex now include orange stickers with Pagano's initials in the middle of Indy's trademark horseshoe. They sent Pagano a game ball after their surprising win over the Packers on Oct. 4. Irsay has placed signs reading (hash)Chuckstrong in each end zone of Lucas Oil Stadium, and the team has been trying to raise money to support leukemia research.

The newest addition to the agenda came late Tuesday when the team said Wayne, Luck and interim coach Bruce Arians would participate in a fundraiser at Dunaway's, a local restaurant, on Nov. 16. They will sign autographs and take photos with fans to help benefit The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

So when Pagano showed up in the Colts' locker room Sunday without his grayish hair or trademark goatee, player director of engagement David Thornton decided to bring in a barber following Tuesday's practice.

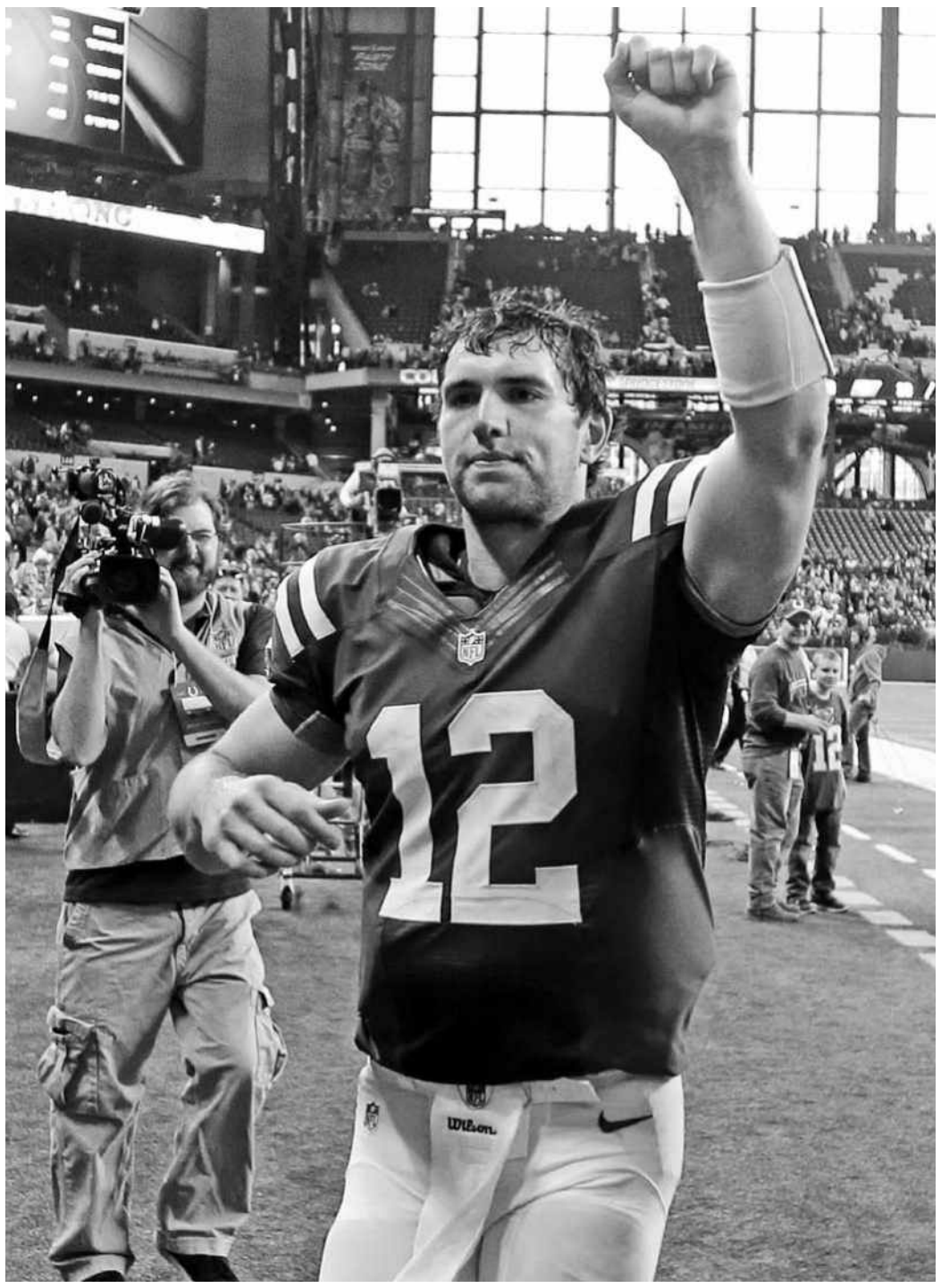
The idea was an immediate hit—and seems to be growing larger by the day.

About two dozen players, including kicker Adam Vinatieri, defensive end Cory Redding, Pro Bowl safety Antoine Bethea and punter Pat McAfee, left the team headquarters Tuesday night with no hair. It's a new look for McAfee, who had a ponytail until last fall when he cut it off and donated the hair to Locks of Love, a cancer charity.

"We haven't been together long... But we're in this together," McAfee wrote in a Twitter message.

On Wednesday morning, more players joined the contingent, including Luck, the No. 1 overall draft pick and this week's AFC offensive player of the week.

At this rate, all of the Colts could have a whole team without hair playing Thursday night at the Jaguars. Arians, one of Pagano's close friends and a prostate cancer survivor, doesn't have any hair, either, though he's donned that look all season.



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck celebrates as he leaves the field following an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins in Indianapolis, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012. AP

Pagano was diagnosed with leukemia on Sept. 26 and remained hospitalized for treatment until Oct. 21. He watched the next two Colts games from his home before doctors allowed him to attend Sunday's victory over Miami. Pagano watched the 23-20 victory from the coaches' box and spoke with his team before and after the game.

"I've got circumstances. You guys understand it, I understand it," Pagano said in an emotional postgame speech. "It's already beat. It's already beat. My vision that I'm living is to see two more daughters get married, dance at their weddings and then lift the Lombardi Trophy several times. I'm dancing at two more weddings and we're hoisting that trophy together, men. Congratulations, I love all of you."

On Monday, Pagano's physician, Dr. Larry Cripe of the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center, said Pagano was in "complete remission." Cripe said Pagano is still scheduled to have two more rounds of chemotherapy. The second round starts this week and will last four to six weeks, Cripe said.

Arians has said the Colts hope to have Pagano back on the sideline Dec. 30, Indy's regular season finale against Houston.

GMs discuss more replay, September roster changes

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP)—In between trade talks and early negotiations with free agents, baseball general managers considered some wide-ranging changes that include broader use of instant replay by umpires, changed roster limits for September and protective headgear for pitchers.

On the first day of the GM's three-day annual session, the Colorado Rockies hired Walt Weiss as manager Wednesday and the New York Mets announced they had reached an agreement to terminate outfielder Jason Bay's contract with one guaranteed season remaining. The Los Angeles Dodgers finalized a deal to hire Mark McGwire to be their first base coach.

Arizona general manager Kevin Towers said he'd listen to trade offers for two-time All-Star right fielder Justin Upton but thought a swap was not likely. And Texas GM Jon Daniels said the Rangers remained interested in re-signing All-Star slugger Josh Hamilton.

During the formal part of the meetings, the GMs talked about instant replay. Video review in baseball began in August 2008 and has been limited to checking whether potential home runs were fair or cleared over fences. Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig has been saying since early 2011 he wants to expand it to two additional types of calls.

"He was talking about really basically fair-foul, trap plays. But we're looking into more than that," said Joe Torre, MLB's executive vice president for baseball operations.

Torre did not detail what types of calls a broader expansion might include.

MLB experimented with the Hawk-Eye animation system that is used to judge line calls in tennis and the TrackMan radar software used by the PGA Tour during tests late this year at Yankee Stadium and Citi Field.

"We still have some questions on the way it is now, if that's going to fit with baseball," Torre said. "I'm not saying it can't be adjusted or they can do something that would make it work for our game."

Depending on what baseball decides, changes might have to be negotiated with the umpires' and players' unions.

GMs also discussed altering the longtime rule allowing active rosters to expand from 25 to 40 from Sept. 1 through the rest of the regular season. Some teams have been reluctant to use the larger limit late in the season. They have cited not wanting to disrupt minor league teams in their playoffs, and those decisions have led to big league games in which teams have differing numbers of available players.

"Each team should have equal number of players available every day," Torre said. "I just think you play the whole season with one set of rules and the most important time of the year, especially for clubs that are in a pennant race, I just don't think it's fair for it to be done (with a) different number of roster people."

Torre said one possibility would be setting a fixed number of players who must be on the active roster for September games.

"We've talked about 28. We've talked about 30," he said. "It was talked about at length today."

GMs also went over ways to protect pitchers from injuries after two were hit on the head by line drives late in the season. MLB staff have said a cap liner with Kevlar, the high-impact material used by military, law enforcement and NFL players for body armor, is among the ideas under consideration.

"If we settle on something that is going to make sense, and obviously the pitcher has to be comfortable with it, we'll obviously put that in as soon as possible," Torre explained.

Oakland's Brandon McCarthy was hit on the head by a line drive in September, causing a skull fracture and brain contusion that required surgery. Detroit's Doug Fister was hit on the head by a liner off the bat of San Francisco's Gregor Blanco during the World Series. Fister was unhurt and stayed in the game.

MLB medical director Dr. Gary Green is to give a report at next month's winter meetings in Nashville, Tenn. MLB senior vice president Dan Halem has said protective headgear for pitchers could be in place in the minor leagues for next season.

After the formal meetings ended, the Rockies announced the hiring of Weiss to replace Jim Tracy, who quit Oct. 7 following a last-place finish in the NL West.

The 1988 AL Rookie of the Year with Oakland, Weiss played shortstop for the Rockies from 1994-97 and was a special assistant to O'Dowd from 2002-08. He left to spend more time with his family and last season coached Regis Jesuit High School outside Denver, in Aurora, to a 20-6 record and the 5A semifinals of the state championship. Weiss' son, Brody, is in his senior year at the school.

As for player talks, the Mets' agreement makes the 34-year-old Bay a free agent and allows the team to spread out the remaining $21 million it owes him.

After signing a $66 million, four-year deal before the 2010 season, the three-time All-Star hit .234 in three injury-plagued seasons with 26 homers and 124 RBIs, including a .165 average with eight homers and 20 RBIs this year. Sidelined by concussions and rib injuries, he played just 288 games for the Mets.

"I still feel I have plenty to give to this game and that I can play baseball at a high level. But after serious consideration, both sides agree that we would benefit from a fresh start," Bay said in a statement released by the team.

McGwire, whose 583 homers rank 10th, joined the Dodgers after three seasons as hitting coach of the St. Louis Cardinals. He was, lured by the chance to spend more time with his wife and five young children.

"It's the first time in my baseball career I have an opportunity to live at home and work at home," McGwire said. "To do what I love, still be in the game of baseball and to be at home, it just fit perfectly."

Daniels hopes Texas remains a fit for Hamilton, a slugger who appears likely to leave after helping the team win AL pennants in 2009 and `10.

"I think there's this perception that we don't want Josh back. That's not accurate. I'd love to have Josh back. It's got to work for both sides," Daniels said. "Whether he ends up here or not, I feel like some need to defend him right now that everyone's kind of throwing out the negatives with him. The reality is like this guy's been a stud for this franchise for the last five years and done some things that have enabled us to reach levels we hadn't previously reached."

Amir Khan says he's thriving after Roach split

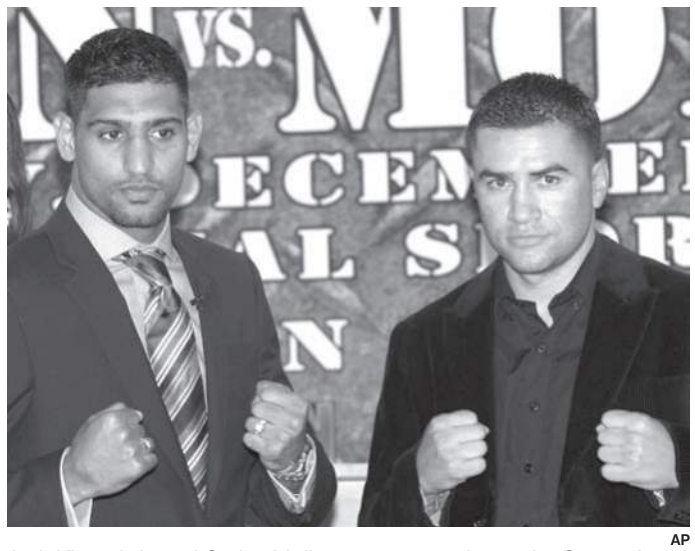
BOXING

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After Amir Khan lost two consecutive fights and all of his championship belts, the British boxer decided his career was in dire need of a reboot.

He started by firing his celebrated trainer, Freddie Roach.

"I called him myself," Khan recalled Tuesday. "I said, 'Freddie, I'm going to make a change.' Not many people would do that, but I'm the one who called him and said I'm going to move to Virgil Hunter. He wished me all the best, and we left it at that."

The switch was a bold move for a fighter with Khan's Olympic pedigree and solid professional record, but the light welterweight star has never been afraid of taking risks. Hunter has refocused Khan's energy on fighting with his head instead of his heart, a tendency that Khan (26-3, 18 KOs) blames for his knockout loss to Danny Garcia in July.



AP

Amir Khan, left, and Carlos Molina appear together at the Sports Arena on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012, in Los Angeles to promote their Dec. 15 boxing bout in Los Angeles

After several weeks with Hunter, the Bay Area trainer behind Andre Ward's climb up the pound-for-pound rankings, Khan already sees a significant difference in both his body and his mental approach. He hopes to show everything he's learning in his comeback fight against Carlos Molina on Dec. 15.

"You'll see a new Amir Khan, for sure," he said. "An Amir Khan who is smarter, more focused, and thinking about himself instead of the crowd. I think my style will always please the crowd, but I'm going to be smart and think about everything, instead of jumping in and making mistakes."

Khan appeared with Molina (17-0-1, 17 KOs) at the historic Los Angeles Sports Arena on Tuesday to promote their Showtime bout.

Although Khan rose to international prominence during his four years with Roach, the veteran mastermind behind Manny Pacquiao and Julio Cesar Chavez Jr., few boxing observers were surprised when they split after Garcia upset Khan with a fourth-round stoppage.

Khan lost his WBC and WBA 140-pound belts when he attempted to brawl with Garcia instead of boxing him. In hindsight, Khan decided he wasn't getting enough attention from the busy Roach, who sometimes asked Khan to travel to the Philippines so he could train Khan and Pacquiao, the Filipino congressman.

"We all know he's a great trainer, but I changed because I needed someone who's going to spend 100 percent time with me," Khan said. "I need to be more selfish. I'm in this position now when I know I can't make any mistakes. ... With Freddie, it would have been very hard right now, having Manny in his camp, also Chavez, and I think he's training Victor Ortiz, so it's a lot of people."

Khan had another reason for splitting with Roach, who has Parkinson's disease.

"Freddie's illness, it's very hard to see him as he's getting older," Khan said. "I believe that he's getting worse, and I wish him all the best. Freddie is still, with the Parkinson's disease, doing a great job working the mitts and working with fighters day in, day out. I just believe that I need someone who is going to work me that bit harder and get the best out of me."

MIEKO

From Page 32

"I arrived in Japan last Thursday and made it to Jo-estu last Saturday. It was raining and cold. There was snow on some mountains and I was worried about the weather, but last Sunday morning the sun came out and it was warmer than the night before," Carey said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

With the much-improved weather greeting Carey and company Sunday morning, the 34-year-old triathlete got off to a good start and was in the lead in the women's division after the first five kilometers.

"I started 7:30pm and the sky was clear and we could see a beautiful view with the nice fall colors—yellow, brown, and dark green. The first four miles was all up hill from bottom of the ski place to almost the top. Some places were very steep and I was unable to run because of the mud. I could feel my heart rate was very high and I was breathing hard but I was just looking at the person in front of me to try to catch up," she said.

After climbing up, the next problem for Carey was going down.

"I was not as good as the others downhill. I did my best to try to follow the line of people in front of me and not let them lead too much. I could see the second female was right behind me so I have to push hard down hills," she said.

Carey soldiered on in the roller coaster course, including the 8K mark which had the biggest uphill climb.

" I didn't have anything left, but I just pushed as much as I could, as I knew after this uphill it will all be down hill until finish. When I heard the MC said 'first female is coming,' I was relieved," the XTERRA Saipan veteran said.

"I challenged myself and I am happy with my time," said Carey, who is recovering from injury and the race in Japan helped her slowly regain her form and prepare for future races.

Carey was one of the over 400 runners who joined last weekend's event, which also featured 30K and 2.5K races.

CFL

From Page 32

Paul Guerrero and offensive and defensive linemen coach Glen Calvo also front the squad, though they will not be joining the group on the trip.

On offense the Sharks primarily employ Pro-Set, West Coast Spread, and Power-I schemes with a 3x5x3 defensive foundation.

As for its, competition, the Punishers are a member of the American Football Federation of the Philippines (AFFP). They have held three exhibition matches leading to its homecoming match this weekend.

They fell hard to Guam's handpicked Miller Lite Football League group, 32-12, this past April, but rebounded nicely with a stout, 43-14, victory over the Hong Kong Cobras back in May and bagged a solid 14-0 shutout over the Beijing Guardians in late July.

The Sharks would like to extend special thanks to Pacific Trading Co., IP&E, IT&E, Tan Holdings, Kanoa Resort, Power 99 (Sorensen Media Group), Saipan Apparel, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, and the Oleai Sports Complex for sponsoring the team, as well as all of the private donors who helped them in a great number of ways.

The team welcomes support from any CNMI fan who happen to be in the area this weekend; upon their return the group will continue its efforts of bringing the sport back to the CNMI.

Details of the game result will be released once received. Email johnsblanco@gmail.com for more information.

ROLLERS

From Page 32

Proa (7-1), a final matchup between Kagman and Hi-5 closes out the regular season.

One of the aforementioned matches took place yesterday, while the other two are expected to take place tonight at the Ada Gym. The first game tips off at 5:30pm followed by the final standoff.

Making up the rest of the Rotary standings are the heavily favored defending champions Sonics (9-0), third place Rollers 2 (7-2), LD Prime (3-6), and the Agape Torchbearers (0-9).

In last Wednesday's game, Rollers 1 assumed an early 20-16 lead in the opening period built off the coattails of center Erik Dela Rosa, who delivered 9 points out of the gate.

Ralph Francisco then took the reins for Rollers 1 in the second quarter and drained a pair of 3-pointers for 10 markers that provided a three-possession margin, 35-29, at halftime. Jeremy Alfred led the Ol'Aces with 10 points in the first half.

Dela Rosa added another 10-point splurge in the third period that helped Rollers 1 maintain a 50-45 edge heading into crunch time.

Rollers 2 quickly separated itself from its rivals early in the fourth quarter, but Ol'Aces threatened a comeback in the final five minutes.

Dela Rosa was inadvertently poked in the eye and was thus held to 3 points in the clutch, but he still played like a beast on the defensive end and ripped down a number of key rebounds that prevented Ol' Aces from gaining second chances under the basket.

Dela Rosa's teammates filled the void in the late minutes as the team outwitted its opponent with a clever half court offensive scheme.

Ol'Aces showed up in spurts during the game and clearly possessed more than enough depth and ability to win the game, but followed its impressive surges with sloppy play that led to its demise.

Rollers 1 was happy to take advantage of its opponents lack of organization and thus deservingly orchestrated the win.

In the final 15 seconds, Ol' Aces trailed only by 3 points, 63-66, and had time to at least try to put Rollers 1 on the free throw line, but elected not to foul.

Rollers 1 even called a timeout to set up an inbounds play to avoid the situation, but did not need to as Ol'Aces simply laid down. Even its coach neglected to inform the team of the situation until after the timeout, but the warning fell on deaf ears.

Dela Rosa was just a beast and led all scorers with 25 points, while Ol'Aces' Derrick Olopai scrambled for a teamhigh 15 on the short end.

Rollers 1 66 – Dela Rosa 25, Francisco 14, Suarez 11, Manaran 6, Deleon Guerrero 5, Manibusan 2, Caro 2, Lansang 1.

Oleai Ol'Aces 63 – D. Olopai 15, Alfred 12, Rogolifoi 10 , Ichihara 8, Aguilar 4, Mendiola 4, R. Olopai 4, Lisua 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-16, 35-29, 50-45, 66-63.

SHIRLEY'S

From Page 32

ings after edging Tan Holdings FC in the other girls U15 match.

Paire now has a 3-0-4 slate to bump off MP United, which holds a 2-1-2 record and drew a bye last weekend. Tan Holdings is still at the bottom of the team standings after dropping its first five games.

Tan Holdings and Paire both went cold in the first half before Kalea Andrew and Jenalien Jonathan drained the needed goals for the latter. Jhaza Mirano scored the lone goal for Tan Holdings.

BOYS U15
Matansa 2, Shirley's 1

Over at the Oleai Sports Complex Field last Friday, the first match in the boys U15 division saw Matans beat Shirley's FC.

Sean Perez delivered the winning goal for Matansa, four minutes after Shirley's equalized. Shirley's forced a deadlock after Yonell Maniacop scored in the 57th minute, while Ryu Tanzawa hit the first goal in the game 10 minutes earlier to put Matansa in the driver' seat.

With the victory, Matansa kept the No. 2 spot in the standings behind MP United (5-0-0) with its 3-2-0 record, while Shirley's fell to a 0-1-5 card.

Tan Holdings 1, Paire 0

Tan Holdings broke into the win column after three failed attempts, following a victory over Paire in the second game.

Zion Alamer logged the only goal in the match to move Tan Holdings out of the cellar and hand the third-running Paire its fourth loss in seven games.

BOYS U18
Paire 3, Tan Holdings 1

Paire widened its lead in the boys U18 after downing Tan Holdings in the first game.

Three different players scored for Paire, which kept its unbeaten record (6-0-1) for a three-win lead over Tan Holdings (3-1-2) and MP United-2 (3-1-1).

Paire made it to the scoreboard early off Thomas Lee's goal in the seventh minute and the team went on to take a 2-0 halftime lead after Makani Gramlich lit up the scoreboard anew in the 16th minute.

Tan Holdings then ended its drought in the 57th minute off Jeff Palacios'goal before Zhi Peng Lin brought Paire's lead back to two about nine minutes later.

MP United-2 14, Matansa 0

The other boys U18 match last Saturday had MP United routing Matansa (0-0-5).

Jehn Joyner feasted on Matansa's defense or the lack of it, firing six goals, while Enrico del Rosario and Dakota Hall added two apiece. Scott Kim, John Taisacan, and Ryota Ito contributed one each and MP United got a freebie off Matansa's error.

Joyner recorded three of MP United's first three goals to shut the door on the hapless Matansa, while Kim and del Rosario chipped in one apiece to pad the lead at the break.

Taisacan then opened MP United's offense in the second half before Joyner earned three more goals and Del Rosario had his second. Ito joined the spree before Hall capped the demolition with his back-to-back goals.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	3	0	1.000	—
Boston	2	2	.500	1½
Philadelphia	2	2	.500	1½
Brooklyn	1	2	.333	2
Toronto	1	4	.200	3

Southeast Division

Miami	4	1	.800	—
Atlanta	2	1	.667	1
Orlando	2	2	.500	1½
Charlotte	1	2	.333	2
Washington	0	3	.000	3

Central Division

Chicago	3	1	.750	—
Milwaukee	2	1	.667	½
Indiana	2	3	.400	1½
Cleveland	2	3	.400	1½
Detroit	0	5	.000	3½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	4	1	.800	—
Dallas	4	1	.800	—
Memphis	3	1	.750	½
Houston	2	2	.500	1½
New Orleans	2	2	.500	1½

Northwest Division

Minnesota	3	1	.750	—
Oklahoma City	2	2	.500	1
Portland	2	2	.500	1
Denver	2	3	.400	1½
Utah	2	3	.400	1½

Pacific Division

Golden State	3	2	.600	—
L.A. Clippers	3	2	.600	—
Sacramento	2	3	.400	1
Phoenix	2	3	.400	1
L.A. Lakers	1	4	.200	2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 teams win debuts in Kanoa co-ed caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tappers, Ball So Hard, and Cool Kids opened their campaign in the 2012 Kanoa Resort 3-on-3 Co-ed's Basketball Tournament on a winning note after topping separate foes last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Tappers slipped past 256 in the curtain raiser, 19-18; Ball So Hard defeated 246, 27-21; and Cool Kids crushed Newbies in the final match, 26-8 to advance to the second round and winners bracket of the double-elimination tournament.

Czarina Lizama drilled back-to-back baskets in the closing minutes of the game to lift Tappers to the one-point win. Lizama was scoreless in the first 10 minutes of play, but redeemed herself in the second, making 6 markers. Serafina Rogoyawa tallied the 4 other points of the Tappers, which were behind by a hair at halftime, 9-10.

Only Jesse Santos scored for 256 in the second half, dropping the team to the loser's bracket where it was scheduled to face 246 last night and must win the match to stay in contention.

The Ball So Hard-246 tiff was also a close one with Lily Williams canning the deciding baskets in the homestretch to give her team the victory. Williams fired 6 straight points in the final 10 minutes of the match and had 8 of Ball So Hard's 10 markers.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kaylania Lebria, seen here going up for a jump hook during a game in the Kanoa caging, scored 7 points in Ball So Hard's 27-21 win over 246 in a 3-on-3 tournament last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gynasium.

Williams finished with a game-high 14 points with her 6 markers and Kaylani Lebria's 7 powering Ball So Hard to a 17-11 halftime lead before 246 tried to rally and fell short in the second half.

In the last tiff of the weekend, Cool Kids had a walk in the park against Newbies.

Josephus Aguilar led Cool Kids' easy win, scoring 10 points. Only Jeralyn Castillo and Mikky Vargas scored for Newbies, as they tallied 4 markers apiece.

Madeleine Alegre added 6 points for Cool Kids, including the first four points off free throws in the first half that ended with her team ahead, 12-2.

Cool Kids protected the double-digit lead in the second half, as Newbies could not get its shots to fall.

Next up for Cool Kids will be a Saturday game against the winner of last night's match between the debuting Midsummer and Posse. The loser of the last first round game was then scheduled to collide against Newbies last night.

Games in the co-ed 3-on-3 caging will run until Nov. 22 with matches to be played every Thursday and Saturday only.

First Game

Tappers 19 – Rogoyawa 8, Lizama 6, Bartolo 4, Mariano 1.

256 18 –Je. Santos 8, Iriarte 6 Jo. Santos 4,

Scoring by halves: 9-10, 19-18.

Second Game

Ball So Hard 27 – Williams 14, Lebria 7, Aranda 4, De Guzman 2.

246 21 – Salem 9, Gatchalian 4, Alegre 6, Santiago 2.

Scoring by halves: 17-11, 27-21.

Third Game

Cool Kids 26 – Aguilar 10, Johnson 8, Alegre 6, Abrams 2.

Newbies 8 – Castill 4, Vargas 4.

Scoring by halves: 12-2, 26-8.

NMASA repeats call out for Mini Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Time is ticking for local sports associations interested in sending delegates to the 2013 Pacific Mini Games in Wallis & Futuna.

"I want to remind everyone that if you want to send athletes to the Games, NMASA needs preliminary expressions of interest, on your letterhead, no later than Dec. 1. We are hoping for athletes from athletics, beach volleyball, sailing, kanu, and indoor volleyball," NMASA Michael White said in an email circulated to various local sports group.

The NMASA head also shared some developments in the host country's preparation of the Mini Games during their monthly meeting last week.

According to White, Wallis & Futuna has a brand new track and field facility similar to the Oleai Sports Complex and a few other facilities is being build, including one for indoor volleyball.

Water and electric supply in the host nation are also good, but transportation will be tough, as car rental services are limited. Hotel accommodations are also a challenge so participants are likely to settle for the athletes and officials villages, which will be school dormitory style.

White

Organizers designated Village Lycee, Lano, and Kolopelu-Futuna for the athletes and Mala'etoli for technical officials. Village Kolepelu, an island that is a bit far from the Games' headquarters, is exclusively for beach volleyball athletes and officials who will stay in the venue until their respective competitions are completed. The Mini Games in the French territory will run from Sept. 2 to 12 and playing days for the beach volleyball competitions have yet to be decided and will depend on the number of entries. In the past tournaments, matches were played in three to four days.

As for the cost to make it to the Games, White said Walls & Futuna is charging $50 per diem, while airfare is around $3,000 per person. Travel time will be for several days, as it took White to reach Wallis & Futuna three days (via Australia and New Caledonia) and two to return to Saipan last month when he attended the Pacific Games Association general assembly. If CNMI athletes/officials decide to compete in the Mini Games, White said they will try to take the Saipan-Seoul-Fiji route.

Ernest Sablan tops XGA October tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Ernest Sablan bested a dozen other contenders to win the X-clusive Golfers Association's October Ace of the Month Tournament last Saturday at Coral Ocean Point Resort.

Sablan started out with a 46 on the first nine holes and finished up with a 44 on the final nine for a total gross tally of 90. The novice, however, was saved by his 24-handicap, which left him with a field-low 66 net total.

He won a cool $90 to go with his ticket into the club's Ace of Aces tournament

XGA's August Ace John Cepeda slid into second place with a 39 on the front nine and a 41 after making the turn for an even raw count of 80 that was trimmed down to a 67 net score. He was issued a modest $60 cash prize.

To his dismay, Joey Dela Cruz was stood up once again and settled for third place. He scratched an even 40 on the front and charged down the home stretch with a 39 on the back nine for a 79 gross sum that was shaved down to a 69 net total, good for $40.

Notably, Ki Soo Kim twice bagged closest to the pin honors with a pair of beauties off the tee on holes No. 3 and 14, while Ralph Yumul took hole No. 7 and Cepeda hole No. 12. Each hole paid out $20.

A total of 16 players turned out in last Saturday's tourney.

Sablan joins January Ace and 2011 champion J.J. Cabrera along with February's Mike Sablan, March's Kisoo Kim, April's Yoon Jae Tuk, May's An Hun Jin, June's Park Hong, July's Luis Cepeda, August's John Cepeda, and September's Carl Hocog.

Dela Cruz, as well as other 11 members still in the chase, now have just two more chances to qualify for a chance to win the association's finale Aces of Aces event, which is scheduled after the turn of the calendar year in January 2013. By tradition the season finale also serves as the curtain raiser for the ensuing season.

The club's November episode is slated for Nov. 24, once again at Coral Ocean Point.

The XGA consists of 37 current members that have participated at some point this 2012 season. For more information, contact league secretary J.J. Cabrera at 287-9478.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Last Saturday's XGA participants pose for a group photo before hitting the links at Coral Ocean Point Resort. Event winner Ernest Sablan appears in the back row, second from the left.

All Schools cross country resumes

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Runners in the U8 age group head to the finish line of the first leg of the 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series held last month at the Airport field.

The 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series resumes tomorrow at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe.

Tomorrow's event will be the second leg of the series and registration will start at 3pm. Races will begin at 4pm and student-runners can enter in the U8, U10, U12, U14, and U18 divisions. The first three age groups will run in the first race, while U14 and U18 runners will be on the same start-up list. A course briefing will be held before each races.

Students who missed the kick-off leg at the Airport field last month are advised to join this Saturday's competition to qualify for the 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships set for Dec. 1 at the American Memorial Park. After tomorrow's tournament, the organizing Northern Marianas Athletics will have only one more qualifier (Nov. 24 at AMP).

Turkey Trot set for Nov. 22

Meanwhile, NMA will be holding the 19th Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run on Nov. 22.

Registration fees are only $7 for adults and $5 for U17 runners. Participants can enter the men's and women's U12, U17, open, 40 to 49, and over 50 categories and top finishers in each division will receive gift certificates for roasted turkey.

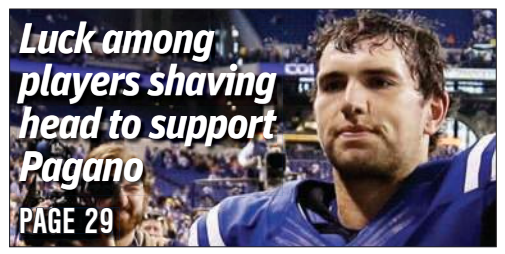
The race will start at 6:30am at Lower Base and the course will cover a distance of 4.2 miles.

Last year, Korean Keum Bae Ji and triathlete Mieko Carey emerged as the top male and female finishers of the race to the top of Saipan's highest peak. Ji completed the race in 39:44, while Carey timed in at 42:36.

Other age group top finishers were John Auther (U12/42:10), Stuart Smith (50A/40:30), Juanita Fajardo (50A/1:10:04), Ronald Villafria (Open/41:57), Noriko Jim (Open/44:34), Tom Linden (40-49/42:11), Kim Young (40 to 49/ 53:49), Tina Goodwin (30-39/1:05:36), Brandon Wiley (30-39/45:39) and U17's Michael Mancao (44:10) and Gabrielle Race (59:14).

For more information about the Turket Trot and cross country series, contact Elias Rangamar at eli_rang@yahoo.com. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports



Mieko wins 12K trail race in Japan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former Saipan triathlete Mieko Carey is now on competition mode after besting Korean, Australia, and Japanese runners in a trail run tournament held last Sunday in Niigata, Japan.

Carey, who moved to Guam late September, missed the 2012 XTERRA World in Hawaii last month, and will be competing in the 100K Tour De Tinian this Sunday and next month's Hell of the Marianas, topped the women's division of the 12K race in the 2012 Suzuki Adventure. She clocked in at 1:11:32 in the trail run held at the freezing Joetsu Kokusai Sky Resort.

See MIEKO on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mieko Carey, center, poses with fellow runners after the race in the 2012 Suzuki Adventure at the Joetsu Kokusai Sky Resort in Niigata, Japan last Sunday.

Shirley's hands Matansa first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's FC snapped Matansa FC's winning run in the girls U15 division of the 2012 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Shirley's FC posted a 2-0 victory in the first match at the Hopwood pitch to give Matansa its first loss in five games. Diana Maniacop and Alexa Vergara scored one goal apiece in the win, which improved Shirley's win-draw-loss slate to 4-1-1 and put the team on top of the five-squad field with its 13 points.

Matansa fell to second place with its 12 points and 4-0-1 card.

Paire 2, Tan Holdings 1

Paire FC moved up from fourth to third place in the team stand-

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Matansa FC's Sean Perez, right, tries to steal the ball away from a Shirley's FC striker during the second half of their game in the boys U15 division of the NMIFA fall league last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

CFL Sharks off to Manila to face Punishers

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Several of the CFL Sharks players pose for a group photo during a break in practice this past Tuesday at CPA's Airport field.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Football League's Sharks are all set to take on Manila's Philippine Punishers in what will be the city's very first organized 11-man tackle football game this Saturday.

The historic game kicks off at 1:30pm in Manila's Ultra Sports Complex.

On offense, the Sharks are comprised of quarterbacks Josh Lutrell and Jerome Norita; running backs Jeff Boyer, Paul Camacho, Tai Dorham, Syl Teregeyo and Jelani Tilipao; wide receivers Danny Agulto, Jermaine Catching, Calvin Esha, Joe Esteves, George Lieto and Jeffrey Warfield; and tight-end Charelston Aiken.

Defensively, Agulto, Catching, Esha, Esteves, Lieto, Lutrell, Norita, Teregeyo Tilipao, and Warfield will all be shifting in and out to fulfill cornerback and safety duties in the secondary; while Boyer, Camacho, and Dorham represent the Sharks' core linebackers.

In the trenches, on both sides of the ball, include linemen Slade Adelbai, Anthony Aguon, John Blanco, Jaime Martinez, Joe Ocampo, Sylan Rangamar along with Al-Lee, Ed Arriola Jr., and Ber-Moses Terry.

The team is led by head coach Tai Dorham and CFL chair John Blanco who also serves as the team manager and assistant coach. Assistant offensive and defensive coordinator

See CFK on Page 30

Rollers 1 outlasts Ol'Aces, 66-63

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Rollers 1 held it together in the fourth quarter to get past Oleai Ol'Aces, 66-63, in the U20 division of the Rotary Club of Saipan's 21st Annual Youth Basketball League held Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ending the season with its fifth win in nine starts, Rollers 1 earned a fourth place ranking, which gives them something to look forward to heading into the postseason. Ol'Aces fell to a 3-4 card, and still has a pair of runs with Kagman (3-5) and Hi-5 (3-5).

Assuming that the Chalan Kanoa Saints (2-7) will not appear in its final game opposite Mariana Resort's second-ranked

See ROLLERS on Page 30

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Rollers 1's Erik Dela Rosa fights for the rebound against Oleai Ol'Aces during last Wednesday's Rotary U20 match at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.